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THURSDAY APRIL 11TH, 2019

Does the Vale get its fair share of funding for education? Turn to page 28.

Popular fashion show supports Prostate Cymru - full story on page 4.

Gabriella wins design project competition

GABRIELLA Lightfoot-Paine from Cowbridge Comprehensive School has been named the winner of the logo design competition for the Madeline Project.

Madeline Phillips, who was diagnosed with Alzheimer's three years ago, said: "All the entries were excellent."

As the founder of Cowbridge's Memory Jar, Madeline continues to be the inspiration for the project, that aims to design and deliver a health and care service as good as the best in the world – meeting the needs of people at risk of, or living with, dementia, starting in the western Vale.

Gabriella designed a three-dimensional 'M' in Madeline's favourite colour, gold.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 4

Pupils receive literary boost

YEAR two pupils from Ysgol Iolo Morganwg and Y Bont Faen Primary School celebrated World Book Day with a storytelling session from Taylor Wimpey south Wales last month.

The house builder also donated copies of its children's book, 'How we build your home with Millie Mortar and Handy Andy' to each pupil who attended the storytelling session, which was translated into Welsh for pupils at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg.

Sales staff from Taylor Wimpey visited the schools to present the book, which provides important messages about how to stay safe around construction sites and housing developments.

Mrs Sara Rees, head-teacher at Ysgol Iolo Morganwg, said: "We'd like to say thank you to Taylor Wimpey for encouraging our pupils to love reading and for translating the book into Welsh for our year-2 pupils who attended the storytelling session with Sian Evans from Taylor Wimpey."

Mr Geraint Couldrick, deputy head-teacher at Y Bont Faen Primary School, said: "The children absolutely loved the storytelling session with Joanna Russell from Taylor Wimpey and were really excited to receive their very own copy, so we'd like to thank them for their generosity."

Sara Taylor, sales and marketing director for Taylor Wimpey south Wales added: "We hope that the 'How we build your home' book continues to be a favourite with the children at Y Bont Faen and Ysgol Iolo Morganwg."

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Readers' Letters

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• Letters and e-mails MUST include your FULL address, contact telephone number. We reserve the right to edit all letters. We do NOT accept anonymous mail.

Many thanks to a public-spirited visitor

WHILE walking my dog towards Cwm Bach on March 30, I saw a pile of a dozen black bags and some tyres placed at the sign of the footpath leading down the valley to the cliff.

I met a man coming back from the cliff edge carrying some large, cumbersome pieces of plastic towards the bags. He had been cleaning the beach.

There was more, and he planned on coming back next day. He had climbed the rickety escape ladder, carrying bags and pieces of rigid plastic and two heavy old vehicle tyres. He then planned to carry these back to his car, which was a considerable distance again, over a mile each time.

Thank you to this generous spirited person, who had come down from Gloucester to visit his girlfriend in Bridgend, and thanks to the farm who allowed us to access the piles via their property.

I took six bags to the amenity site and – you guessed it – I had to empty each bag individually to prove they just contained plastic.

While I was emptying the very last bag, a woman dumped perfectly good plastic toddler toys, large plastic storage boxes (charity shops, and women's refuges welcome such donations) into the general waste.

She could have saved herself the climb; there is a ground level bin for large rigid plastic, which she had parked right next to.

Mrs C Jones, Broughton.

'Is Vale Council stuck in past with gender pay gap?' asks reader

I AGREE with Glynis Lloyd (GEM letters April 4).

The Vale Council often does not respond well to residents; it seems stuck in the past and in old ways that no longer work.

Worryingly, the Vale's gender pay gap is 13.9 per cent in favour of men. For every £10 the average male Vale Council worker earns, female workers get £8.61.

Cardiff Council has a 4.7 per cent gap – not good enough, but much lower than the Vale and lower than average.

Rebecca Thomas, Vale of Glamorgan.

The Vale Council responded: Cllr John Thomas, Leader of the Vale Council, said: "These figures do not accurately represent the council's current position as they are based on data that is over a year old.

"Council jobs are subject to job evaluation based on the demands and duties of the role and the salary paid is the same whether a position is filled by a man or woman. The council has moved from a mean gender pay gap of 9.8 per cent in March 2015 to a current mean figure of 8 per cent.

"A comprehensive review of the council's pay structure took place during the last financial year and it is anticipated the median figure for the gender pay gap during 2019/20 will be significantly lower than 13.9 per cent.

"We recently agreed a pay increase for staff across the board, with the lowest paid workers in particular benefiting.

"They now earn a minimum of £9.18 per hour, which is £1.35 higher than the national minimum rate and also exceeds the independently-set Foundation Living Wage.

"It should also be noted that the gouncil's gender pay gap data excludes school-based staff. This may differ to other authorities and have a significant impact on figures."

A small act of kindness made a difference

MY husband and I were unfortunate enough to be in a collision with a lorry on the B4265 on our way into Cardiff on the morning of Thursday, April 4.

Following the accident, we were in a small lay-by on the road between Llantwit Major and St Athan by the airfield, for some hours. I would like to thank the two women who stopped to make sure we were okay, one at the scene and another who stopped in the lay-by, having seen us in our badly-damaged car.

I can't tell you how much these small acts of kindness have helped in what has been a traumatic few days. Thank you from the bottom of my heart, it is good to know that people like you exist.

Mrs Pat Lankshear, Llantwit Major.

'MPs need to listen on assisted dying'

LAST week, the largest-ever assisted dying poll found huge public support across the UK for a change in the law, and at 86 per cent in Wales, it is even higher than the national average.

In these divided times, giving dying people compassion and choice at the end of life is clearly a cause that unites us.

Like many of your readers, I've seen accounts of people travelling to die at Dignitas in Switzerland, and of others whose end of life experiences were in unrelieved severe pain – I believe people need choice through a change in the law.

Unfortunately, MPs are not reflecting the views of their own constituents on this important issue, and this has to change.

If GEM readers have seen a loved one suffer at the end of life, or if they care about how they or their nearest and dearest will die, I urge them to join our local group.

It is crucial that our MPs listen to the people of Wales on this subject and ensure that dying people do not have to suffer against their wishes at the end of life.

Dick Tonkin, Member of Campaign for Dignity In Dying, Cardiff Group

Walking to Barry Island not possible for some…

I READ with interest Ashley Wallace's letter in The GEM last week about walking to Barry Island from the town centre.

It is obviously written by a very fit person who doesn't know about disability.

I, and plenty of others, would love to walk that – or anything like that distance.

Has this person never heard of disabled persons? With walking problems, we need to be able to park near where we want to go.

Which brings me to the point of limited parking times on the Island – would there be any concessions for disabled people?

Anthony Atkins, Sully.

Council tax payers 'ripped off'

HERE we go again; the Vale Council want more money out of us council tax payers – we are to be ripped off and charged to walk the dog.

I, and many others, use Porthkerry and Cosmeston on a daily basis along with Barry Island, so it is going to cost us £4 a day on average for the pleasure, which to many of us is not affordable. Disappointing – but, I suppose, expected from this council.

Brian Hamlin, Barry.

This month is Bowel Cancer Awareness Month

AS a recent bowel cancer survivor I would like to urge your readers to use the bowel screening kit sent from Bowel Cancer Wales if they are eligible regarding age.

Key risk factors typically include people being over 50 but you can never be too young to have bowel cancer. If it's caught in the early stages it can/may be preventable, treatable and curable.

The kit is easy to use, along with further methods of test to find the right way forward with support, understanding, maybe having a life changing operation carried out by wonderful health care professionals.

I have listed symptoms to be aware of:

Blood in your poo, unexplained weight loss, bowel habit changes, tiredness, no energy.

I cannot urge people enough to please, use the bowel screening kit when it's posted in your front door.

Lynne Nesbitt, Barry.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Plaid in Barry to oppose car parking charges

PLAID Cymru are opposed to plans by the Conservative-run Vale Council to introduce parking charges in Barry Town Centre car parks.

These proposals make no sense – either for the council or for the centre of Barry. The Vale Council's own figures show that two of the town centre car parks (Thompson Street and Kendrick Road) would actually lose money over seven years if they introduced charges, while in total, the other car parks at Wyndham Street and the Court Road multi-storey would make just £11,000 per year.

We all know that Holton Road is in an economically fragile position, with a number of major shop closures in the past year. This plan would do nothing to improve the area.

Holton Road shop owners and staff raised their concerns in the Barry town centre summit, as have local churches and school staff at Holton Primary, while residents are concerned that displaced parking will lead to problems in Holton Road's side-streets.

This is yet another Tory PR blunder that should be scrapped.

Cllr Ian Johnson, Cllr Millie Collins, Plaid Cymru – the Party of Wales.

HIGH TIDE TIMES
(UNTIL APRIL 18)

The high tides listed in this week's GEM are those in Porthcawl. It should be remembered that along the coast, high tide times will vary. For instance, in Barry, the high point will be 20-25 minutes later.

DATE	Time AM	Ht M	Time PM	Ht M
11 Thur	10.59	8.8	23.23	8.6
12 Fri	11.56	8.3	-------	----
13 Sat	00.25	8.1	13.12	7.9
14 Sun	01.50	7.7	14.44	7.9
15 Mon	03.22	8.0	16.09	8.2
16 Tues	04.38	8.6	17.16	9.1
17 Wed	05.38	9.3	18.09	9.5
18 Thurs	06.28	9.9	18.55	10.0

While The GEM makes every effort to check the accuracy of tide tables, we recommend that anyone putting out to sea, or walking in an area where they could be cut off, should check with a tide table specific to their location.

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Cowbridge U3A History Group follow in Mesolithic footprints

IN 2014, storms revealed a mud bank at Port Eynon, Gower, that showed footprints believed to date from the Bronze Age, and Cowbridge U3A History Group recently welcomed Dr Rhiannon Philp to talk about them.

In the UK, there are only 12 coastal sites that have ancient human footprints. Several different circumstances have to combine to preserve the prints, and the survival of such footprints is always under threat by coastal erosion.

Dr Philp's PhD thesis, started in late 2014, was based on researching the Port Eynon footprints at the infrequent, suitable periods of very low tides, when there were low sand deposits on the beach.

Fieldwork commenced in 2015 when a party went to Port Eynon to search for footprints in the peat deposits revealed by the tide. Rhiannon told the audience that it was her mother who was the first to spot some. Eventually, shoeless human footprints, both adults and children, and animal tracks were found.

Because the tide imposed constraints on recording the footprints (there was only a two-hour window), plastic sheets and positions recorded by GPS were used for mapping, with the footprints being traced onto them by pen.

Because of the environment, it was not possible to take casts of the footprints, but multiple photographs taken at different angles allowed for 3D models to be made.

Rhiannon showed the group a model of a footprint of a child, probably aged six to eight, in which a deer had subsequently made a hoof print.

The presence of red deer, roe deer, wild boar (or pig), juvenile aurochs (wild cattle) and possibly dog or wolf, was indicated by the animal spoor found in the same layer of peat as the human impressions.

Samples of the peat deposits on the beach were taken and microscopic investigation was undertaken of the pollen found in the layers. The results indicated that the footprints were made in a freshwater, open environment of grasses, not far from trees. Charcoal indicated nearby woodland burning.

Carbon-14 dating gave a date of 5,300-4,990BC, which meant the footprints pre-dated the Bronze Age and were actually of the Mesolithic period. Human remains from this era have been found in the nearby Foxhole Cave.

The footprints were made by a group of adults and children, walking barefoot in an open environment of grass and marsh about 7,000 years ago. The presence of animals in the vicinity could suggest a hunting party tracking their prey in a landscape now lost to the sea.

The good news was that Rhiannon was awarded her doctorate earlier this year, based on the hard work she had undertaken on Gower's 'footprints in the waves'.

SPM

Friends of Tenovus plan a Cowbridge fashion show

COWBRIDGE is a fashionable town, so what better place for Tenovus Cancer Care to hold an exclusive Mint Velvet and Vintage fashion show?

The good news is you can buy any of the garments on the night! The date for your diary is May 21 and tickets, priced at just £5, are available at the Cowbridge Tenovus shop.

Mint Velvet is a high end British fashion manufacturer which has kindly donated a large number of new garments to the charity.

The Cowbridge shop has been chosen to stock a wide range of Mint Velvet because it is one of the most successful Tenovus stores in the UK.

Tim Jeans, Cowbridge Tenovus shop manager said: "I'm delighted to have these high quality items in the shop. We wanted to give people a chance to see them on models and to get a glimpse of the 'designer' and high end goods which are donated to us. They help us raise many thousands of pounds each year for Tenovus."

The fashion show will be held on Tuesday, May 21, at 6pm, in the ballroom of the Duke of Wellington in Cowbridge. Models will be Tenovus shop volunteers and members of Tenovus Sing With Us Cardiff North choir. A selection of Mint Velvet separates, jackets, dresses and coats are in the Cowbridge shop.

"I have to say a big thank you to my friends and neighbours in Llanmaes who kindly modelled some of the many Mint Velvet clothes for us," said Gail Foley, one of Cowbridge Friends group.

"I hope you agree Julie Giles, Sue Stephens, Jackie Wright, Llinos Griffin and her two-year-old daughter Gwenno did a fabulous job?"

In other news, half the tickets for the Tenovus Bollywood night at the Shampan restaurant in Cowbridge on Tuesday, May 7 have already been sold – join us for a night of Indian food and drink, classical dance, music and henna hand painting.

Tickets for all Cowbridge Friends of Tenovus events are sold in our shop on High Street.

GF

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

A local sculptor visits Cowbridge Probus club

THE speaker at the April meeting of the Cowbridge Pontfaen Probus Club was Roger Andrews, who talked about his life as a sculptor.

Although he had begun his working life as an apprentice electrician, and then as an engineer, he had later discovered a natural ability as a modeller. This led to a new career producing models in plaster which were then used to make sculptures, mainly in the medium of bronze.

These ranged in size from small desk top statuettes to a nine foot high statue of Sir Tasker Watkins located outside the Principality Stadium. His many commissions for statues included people from the world of sport, politics and the armed forces.

He described the sometimes complex technical procedures involved in the production of the various moulds from his original models, and was able to describe the emotional impact that a realistic statue could have on the relatives of the subject.

He helped members appreciate the rewards of a professional life that combined art with a knowledge of engineering.

The Cowbridge Pontfaen Probus Club meet in the Bear Hotel, Cowbridge, on the first Wednesday of the month at 10.45am. New members are very welcome. If you would like to come each month for an interesting talk, contact the club secretary David Pierce on 01446 773248 or at pierce316@btinternet.com

DP

Clare weaves a tale at WI

ON Thursday, April 4, St Nicholas WI spent a delightful evening listening to Clare Revera teaching them about the history and art of basket weaving.

Following a demonstration from Clare, all the members made a bird feeder to take home.

Plans for St Nicholas WI's 80th birthday celebrations were discussed. Dates have now been agreed for a trip to Kelmscott Manor in June and afternoon tea in Holm House Hotel, Penarth in July.

Ann Bryant won the raffle and Rosemary Fisher won this month's competition. President Janet Hayes reminded members that the next meeting would be the AGM with a fish and chip supper and a plant sale.

The next meeting is on May 2 at 7pm in the Reading Room, Bonvilston; new members always welcome.

VH

COMMUNITY NEWS

TREOES, LLANGAN & ST MARY HILL

News and views from Nancy Davidge, Tynewydd, Llangan. 01656 860303.

News from Llangan School

ALL this week (April 8-12), children at Llangan School have been taking part in a health and wellbeing week.

Pupils have been learning how to keep minds and bodies healthy with various health professionals visiting to teach Tai Chi and first aid, and to give advice on healthy eating and keeping fit.

Saron Chapel vestry

AT long last, the vestry has been granted the cash needed for the modernisation of the building. If everything goes as planned, this will prove to be a real asset to the village of Treoes.

St Mary Hill Church

THE Easter Day service will be held on Sunday, April 21 at 7.30am, with the officiating cleric Rev David Boult. Everyone will be assured of a warm welcome.

Cowbridge and District Flower Arrangers news

IT was a sheer pleasure to listen, learn and admire the demonstrations given by Pat Llewellyn from Ammanford at the April meeting of Cowbridge and District Flower Arrangers.

Her knowledge on the 3D aspect and structure of plant material gave everyone something to think about.

The next meeting is on Wednesday, May 1 at 7.30pm in the Lesser Hall, Cowbridge.

'An Advance Notice' is an open evening to all, upstairs in the Town Hall, on June 5 at 7.30pm when Nigel Whyles will be sharing his expert knowledge; all welcome.

JMS

LOCAL VALE LAW FIRM WINS TOP UK AWARD
'SUCCESS STARTS WITH A GREAT TEAM'

Catherine Hartland & Alexandra Jenkins

Local Barry Law firm attended the prestigious Modern Law Awards in Manchester on Thursday 31January 2019 and were the only law firm from Wales to reach the finals, the only law firm to be finalists in more than 2 awards, and the only law firm to come away with three awards.

Catherine Hartland won Managing Partner of the Year UK

The Firm were runners up in UK:
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Catherine Hartland says: *'the firm is only as good as the team it employs, and here at Newbold we believe we have a great team'.*

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Popular fashion show supports Prostate Cymru

A SOLD out fashion show has raised thousands for Prostate Cymru, the leading prostate health charity in Wales.

The show was organised by the charity's founder trustee Lyn Murray and her friend Esther Hitchcock of boutique Jon Ian.

Two hundred guests attended the event at The Bear Hotel in Cowbridge. Ian 'H' Watkins, best known as one fifth of the pop band Steps, compered the show and took to the stage to perform.

Over 30 models, including Prostate Cymru's staff members Chris Leyshon and Owen Pugsley, took to the catwalk to model clothing, bags and accessories from the town's independent clothing stores.

Local brands modelled at the show included Kingfox, Kathy Gittins, Colours of Cowbridge, CocoPlum, Tallia Cowbridge, Visage, Goose Island and Ushi's.

In addition to seeing sneak peeks of upcoming fashion trends and current popular items, guests were treated to a drinks reception, three-course meal, pre and post-show music by Phil Amos and the chance to win a super prize – an overnight stay and spa treatment at the St Brides Hotel, Saundersfoot.

Lyn Murray with Chris Leyshon and Owen Pugsley.

Students remember Jack at match

GEM readers may recall that last week we carried a report of a fundraising football match played at Cowbridge Comprehensive School as part of a drive to create a memorial garden for Jack Griffiths.

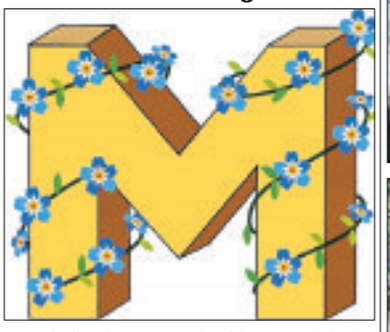
Jack was a pupil at the school, and died at the age of 15 from a rare form of throat cancer.

Since his passing, there have been a number of fundraising events – aiming to create a permanent memorial garden to remember Jack and act as a reflective and pleasant area in which students and members of the community can celebrate his life. This will stand as a lasting symbol of remembrance, not just for Jack, but for everyone.

Unfortunately, this picture of the two teams at the match did not arrive in time to be included with the report, so The GEM is pleased to include it this week.

Gabriella designs logo for Madeline Project

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1



Vines were wrapped around the letter, representing a tight bond of support, with Forget-Me-Not flowers representing a blooming local community and the light blue of the Alzheimer's Society. The flowers were all different sizes, illustrating that dementia support is needed from all age groups.

Jan Sharp, a medical illustrator from Cardiff and Vale University Health Board, turned the drawing into a digital logo.

The competition was organised by Grace Marshall from the school council after the idea was raised at the January Dementia Friendly Cowbridge meeting.

Madeline Phillips presented the prize at her second Big Gathering at the Bear Hotel on March 28. The gathering was an inspiring event bringing together a wide range of healthcare professionals, dementia-friendly organisations and other talented and creative people who share Madeline's vision.

Join the great Easter egg hunt in Cowbridge

COWBRIDGE Chamber of Trade will be staging their annual Easter Egg Hunt around the High Street, starting this Friday.

Hosting this year's egg hunt and providing the grand prize will be our newest chamber members Jenny Lambert Art and Buttercup Cwtch – based in the Courtyard off Bear Lane. You can call there to pick up a Easter Egg Trail form from Friday, April 12, until Wednesday, April 24.

There are 15 egg posters to find, all located in the windows of businesses around the town. The first 36 forms completed correctly will win a chocolate egg kindly donated by Waitrose. All completed entries will then be put in to a prize draw for the main prize.

Kate Thomas
Cowbridge Chamber of Trade

Twinning association prepares to welcome guests

PORTHCAWL Town Twinning Association's friends from France will be arriving this July for their 20th anniversary visit.

They will be staying with local families and possible venues for social events include The Grand Pavilion, The Royal Porthcawl Golf Club, the back of a lorry at the Carnival, a tour of the Senedd and the Norwegian Church in Cardiff.

Anyone interested in joining in the fun should call Ann on 01656 788027.

PW

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Vale village will be super-connected after broadband deal is agreed

A PARTNERSHIP between local residents and Openreach is to make high-speed fibre broadband available to a rural community in the Vale.

Llancarfan will soon be able to enjoy some of the fastest and most reliable broadband speeds in Europe as a result of Openreach's Community Fibre Partnership (CFP).

The scheme is designed to help people in places not included in any current roll-out plans to bring fibre broadband to their local area, working with Openreach to co-fund the installation.

The cost of the Llancarfan CFP will be covered by a combination of investment from Openreach and the residents themselves who were able to get Welsh Government Access Broadband Cymru (ABC) vouchers.

A total of 129 properties will benefit – ranging from a local tractor distributor to a leading Welsh heart surgeon – which will make it the largest full-fibre Community Fibre Partnership of its kind in Wales.

Dr David Smith is a consultant cardiologist who lives in Llancarfan and practises at Morriston Hospital. Dr Smith says that having ultrafast broadband fed directly to his home will be a game changer for the way he works.

Dr Smith explains: "As a medical professional, ultrafast broadband will facilitate my work enormously.

"Modern medicine is dominated by diagnostic imaging be it ultrasound, computerised tomography (CT) or magnetic resonance imaging (MRI). These complex images, which are large digital files, are used not only in diagnosis but in planning treatment.

"In my work as a heart specialist, the arrival of ultrafast broadband will allow me to review cases and plan individual treatment strategies in my own home which I am currently unable to do. This pre-procedural review will improve efficiency and therefore be of benefit in improving patient care."

Llancarfan villagers celebrate their broadband news.

Thoughts of having to relocate his local tractor dealership due to poor connectivity have now been put aside by David Evans who runs Llancarfan based – DEAL Tractors.

He said: "With e-commerce being 'the norm' it is imperative that a rurally-based business like ourselves has access to fast internet connectivity.

"It is impossible to perform even the most basic of tasks such as downloading software upgrades, internet banking, marketing and social media and there have been times when only one member of staff has been able to be active on the internet at one time due to the speed.

"We are simply unable to function properly as a business without it and in order to continue to thrive and grow it is simply an essential business tool and most certainly not a luxury."

Welcoming the announcement Martyn Hughes, chairman of Llancarfan Community Council, said: "The delivery of this project will see the entire village connected – including more than 25 businesses and a large number of people who work from home.

"It will enable an elderly resident to have video calls with her family in Australia, allow children and students to access educational material online at home, farmers to conduct their business, much of which is internet based, and of course allow access to many other online streaming services enjoyed by most residential households elsewhere.

"I would encourage all communities across Wales who are struggling to access an acceptable or cost effective broadband service to investigate the options an Openreach Community Fibre Partnership like ours can offer.

"For us as a Community Council, leveraging the 'Access Broadband Cymru' grant from the Welsh Government and engaging with the Openreach CFP team became an incredibly straightforward and expedient process. The key to the success of this has been the strength and support from the community."

The Secretary of State for Wales and Vale MP, Alun Cairns, said: "I want to pay tribute to the members of the community who have worked hard to achieve this, including Martyn Hughes. Ultrafast broadband plays an essential role in supporting our economy by attracting investment and providing the platform for local businesses to grow."

The deal is expected to see the first properties get the ultrafast service in March next year. Fibre-to-the-Premise (FTTP) technology will make broadband speeds of up to one gigabit per second (Gbps) available which is enough to stream 200 HD Netflix movies simultaneously [2].

Once Openreach has installed the infrastructure, residents can place an order for the new faster services with a provider of their choice.

For more information on community fibre partnerships with Openreach visit www.communityfibre.bt.com

Council backs down on dog ban for sports pitches

A COUNCIL has been accused of caving in to "arrogant" dog owners for dropping measures which would have seen dogs banned from sports pitches.

The Vale Council has said a blanket ban on sports pitches will not be included in a proposed public spaces protection order (PSPO) aimed at stopping anti-social dog walkers.

Dog walkers would face fines of £100 if they do not pick up their pets' faeces at sports pitches or other public spaces and there would also be seasonal bans on some beaches.

The sports pitch ban was dropped following public opposition as a petition signed by 1,522 people opposed the move, but a consultation answered by 1,763 people found 57 per cent supported the banning of dogs from marked sports pitches.

Cllr Kevin Mahoney told the council's Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee on April 4 that a blanket ban of dogs from sports pitches was the authority's "one chance" to deal with the issue of fouling on sports pitches.

He said the "sheer arrogance of people to think they should demand that their dogs can go on sports pitches" is "absolutely disgraceful".

He added: "I've heard people whining they've got nowhere to walk their dog, but that's strange, because I'm a dog owner and I don't have any problem with that. It's impossible to clear the complete amount of faeces left by even those so-called responsible dog owners.

"This authority has admitted year after year it's physically incapable of policing dog fouling. The one chance you have of keeping faeces off sports pitches is having a blanket ban so that if any dog is on there, the owner can be prosecuted.

"Who are these members of the public that have been so indignant and insistent their dogs should be allowed to do this? And who on earth are the Vale cabinet to agree with them and back down in this way?"

"The cabinet are caving to a bunch of indignant dog owners who, quite frankly, if they can't find anywhere to walk their dog as I do, shouldn't own a dog."

Seasonal bans of dogs from Penarth seafront and The Knap beach are also set to be removed but dog bans will still apply on a seasonal basis at Whitmore Bay, Dunraven Bay and Cwm Colhuw.

Dogs would still be banned from all children's play areas, ecological conservation areas and bowling greens in the Vale, and they would be required to be on leads all year round on the promenade at Whitmore Bay and Penarth seafront and pier.

RSPCA Cymru opposed the sports pitch ban, but agreed it should be an offence for dog owners not to clean up after their pets.

Council leader John Thomas has previously said the council has taken people's views into account and has achieved a "balanced position".

Cllr Lis Burnett told the committee that dog owners had felt victimised by the proposals.

She said: "It was so painful for many members of the public who felt they were earmarked for derision as dog owners or dog walkers. We need to learn from this exercise and understand that consultation is not engagement."

Cllr Steffan William asked if sports pitches could be "fenced off" to prevent dogs walking on them, but the council's operational manager Colin Smith said this "could be quite costly" for the council.

Mr Smith said: "We know the majority of dog owners are responsible and we don't want to limit them from the green spaces the Vale has to offer."

There were also calls for more dog waste bins throughout the Vale at the meeting.

Councillors heard there have been just six prosecutions for dog fouling in the Vale in the past year.

Cardiff council's PSPO against dog fouling has dog owners fined £100 if they are found without bags or the means of picking up after their pets.

Mr Smith said: "The legal team were concerned it wouldn't be lawful. In the law, it doesn't state what you have to use to pick up the dog fouling."

Matt Discombe.
Local democracy reporter

Colwinston and Llysworney WI hold annual meeting

Liz and Caroline with the new committee.

AT the recent meeting of Colwinston and Llysworney WI, Caroline Davies, WI Advisor, led members through the correct procedure for the AGM.

Collette Evans gave her secretary's report, reminding everyone of all the meetings during the past year. The finances had been audited and emailed to all members.

Liz Stone gave her report, thanking the committee and all the members for their support.

The new committee was formed and president Liz was unanimously elected for a further year. The new programme would be printed and distributed with many interesting speakers, outings and social events – a year to look forward to, with lots of fun and friendship, the motto of the WI!

Parkinson's cafe

THE next Parkinson's Drop In Cafe takes place on Wednesday, April 17 from 1.30pm-3.30pm in Llantonian Hall, Llantwit Major.

All are welcome to come along and have a chat and a cuppa. For further information, call Martin Simmonds on 01446 796310.

Cowbridge Chorale's annual Easter concert

COWBRIDGE Choral Society is pleased to announce its annual Easter concert taking place at 7pm on Saturday, April 13 in Bethel Baptist Church, Pontyclun.

We will once again be joined by Pontypridd Choral Society and we will be performing the Requiem by Brahms in memory of Paul Weston.

The Vale of Glamorgan National Trust

ON Thursday, April 17 The Vale of Glamorgan National Trust will hold their Annual General Meeting in The Duke of Wellington Hotel, Cowbridge at 7pm.

This will be followed at 7.30pm by a lecture on bees given by Professor Robert Pickard. On the subject of bees Professor Pickard is an international authority.

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Tractor Boys raise cash for Parkinson's

THE Tractor boys of Aberthin, in association with The Vale of Glamorgan Ploughing and Hedging Society staged a tractor run on March 24.

Normally proceeds from this run would be donated to The Ed Evans Foundation, but since the foundation has ceased raising money all proceeds will be donated to the Parkinson Foundation in memory of John Watts.

John, who passed away earlier this year was a founder member of the Vale Ploughing and Hedging Society. This run was very well supported and over £710 was raised on the day.

More than 46 tractors left Frank Sutton's yard near Treoes on what was probably the warmest day of the year to date. A glorious day for a tractor run.

The convoy headed towards Pentre Meyrick, crossing the A48 and making their way towards Llysworney; and then bearing left for Crossways House and on past the Cross Inn, passing down into Llanblethian.

From there the tractors headed for Llanmihangel, passing The Herberts and dropping down into Llandough before making their way to St Hilary via Beaupre Farm.

From St Hilary the tractors headed across the common, crossed the A48 and stopped on Cowbridge common to take in the scenery.

There was then a refreshment and food stop in Arthur John's yard before making the return journey to Frank Sutton's workshops.

A total of 30 miles was covered, with many of the tractors taking part being over 60 years old – as, incidentally, were many of the drivers! All the old girls completed the run successfully with no mishaps or breakdowns and the run was enjoyed by everyone involved.

Many thanks to route master Martyn Huish, rear gunner Alan Lucas, Caroline Langford for booking in, and Frank Sutton and David John for use of their facilities.

The Tractor Boys of Aberthin will organise another tractor run on Sunday, April 28 starting from Arthur John's yard. All money raised from this run will be split between two dementia day centres which are based in Cowbridge. Please come along to support this very worthwhile cause.

SRD

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by GLYN EVANS
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Coffee morning in Llantwit

THE Mayor of Llantwit Major is holding a coffee morning on April 13 in the Llantonian Hall between 10am and 12pm.

The Ukelastic Band will play and the results of the silent auction will be announced around 11.30am. Just a reminder that bids can be made for the many unique prizes in the auction by downloading a form from the Town Council website and submitting it via e-mail to llantwitmajortc@outlook.com, or by collecting and handing in a hard copy of the form at the Llantwit Major Town Council office at the Town Hall.

Alternatively, bids can be made direct to the Mayor by e-mail on llantwitmajortc@outlook.com. The closing date for online bids will be 4pm on Thursday, April 11 and for hard copy bids 11am at the coffee morning.

Barry Indoor Car Boot sale

WANT to clear out your clutter and make some extra money?

Book a table at the Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale on Saturday, April 27 at the St Francis Millennium Centre on Park Road in Barry.

There's no need to get up early or risk being rained on, just have a clear out, book a table and bring along your unwanted items to the hall.

Tea and coffee available on the day with donations going to Barry Dock RNLI. Sellers can arrive from 8.30am and it is free entry for buyers; call in between 9.30am-11.30am.

Tables are £10 and must be booked and paid for in advance. For further information, email hannah@hicommunications.co.uk, text 07415657661 or search Barry Indoor Car Boot Sale.

Got a story? Then get in touch with us - email editorial@glamorgan-gem.co.uk or call 01446 774484

Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg hosts Urdd Eisteddfod preliminary rounds

Pupils from Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg.

Pupils from Ysgol Sant Curig.

ON a sunny March 29, Ysgol Gymraeg Bro Morgannwg in Barry welcomed pupils from all of its cluster schools to compete in the preliminary rounds of the National Urdd Eisteddfod.

Welsh primary school pupils from all over the Vale took part in the numerous singing and recitation competitions. The winners will go forward to the county round on Saturday, March 30.

Geraint Scott, Urdd development officer for Cardiff and The Vale commented: "It's great to see so many children taking part this year. The standard is high and many competitions have over 40 entrants. It's going to make for an exciting National Eisteddfod which will be held in Cardiff this year – pob lwc."

Senior school pupils will have their chance to compete in the county round on April 5 and 6. Remember to put a note in the diary that the week long National Urdd Eisteddfod will be held in Cardiff Bay on May 26–June 1; entry is free and makes a great day out for all the family.

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Conference brings physicians of Indian origin together

THE City Hall in Cardiff recently hosted a conference organised by the British Association of Physicians of Indian origin, attended by 200 delegates and opened by the Health Minister Vaughan Gething AM through a video message.

Prof. Keshav Singhal MBE.

Dr Hasmukh Shah BEM.

The health minister gave very clear guidance to the local health boards that he wanted to see more candidates from the black and minority ethnic communities at board level in NHS Wales.

Professor Keshav Singhal MBE welcomed the delegates and highlighted the disparity in attainment and the disproportionate referral of BME doctors for disciplinary proceedings. According to some official statistics BME doctors have between 30 to 50 per cent higher chance of being referred to the disciplinary proceedings.

Recognising this in the wake of the case of Dr Hadiza Bawa-Garba, the GMC had commissioned research from Roger Kline, a research fellow at the Middlesex University, the results of which are due to come out in autumn 2019.

Dr Kline has earlier said that white managers have difficulty in having an informal conversation with BAME doctors in the same way in which they will have with a white doctor, which could partially explain the early escalation to a disciplinary process.

The expert panel further discussed this issue and agreed that middle ranking managers need to be trained and sensitised in their dealings with BAME staff.

Dr Hasmukh Shah BEM the secretary of Bapio Wales, expounded on the functions and the role of Bapio and encouraged the delegates to become members. He reaffirmed Bapio's commitment to equality and fairness and expressed the hope that with mutual dialogue Wales will be able to take a leadership role in the world in looking after all its staff.

Over 250 guests from all walks of life including senior politicians, businessman, university professors, doctors and their families and allied medical professionals attended the banquet later that evening which was addressed by the Vale MP Alun Cairns, the keynote speaker, and the First Minister, Mark Drakeford, the chief guest.

Praise from across the board for winners and nominees of Bro Radio's Community Awards

AM congratulates family after posthumous Bro Radio award

JANE Hutt AM congratulated family of the late Cath Watkins BEM for the special recognition award she received at the Bro Radio 10th Anniversary Awards at the Memo.

Cath Watkins was nominated by Jane Hutt and many others for her brilliant voluntary work setting up and running the Vale Homework Club in Rhoose, proving opportunities for children and young people which made a huge difference to their lives.

Jane Hutt said: "I was privileged to know Cath Watkins and see her inspiring work with children and young people making a difference to their lives. She sadly lost her courageous battle against cancer late last year and it has been an honour to pay tribute to her life's work in this way. Thank you Bro Radio."

Vale MP meets sports star at Bro Radio awards

ALUN Cairns MP commented on the Bro Radio awards: "It was a pleasure to attend the Bro Radio Community Awards on their 10th anniversary, where local people were recognised for their excellent contributions to our community.

"I want to pay tribute to the work that they do: whether that's volunteering, looking after vulnerable people or putting Barry on the map through sporting achievement. They all deserve to be celebrated and I'm grateful to Bro Radio for providing this platform."

GVS congratulate all at Bro Radio awards evening

STAFF and trustees of Glamorgan Voluntary Services (GVS) would like to offer their congratulations to all who were nominated, shortlisted and the winners of the awards presented at the Bro Radio Community Awards event on Saturday evening.

Rachel Connor, chief executive officer of GVS, said: "It was a really wonderful event thoroughly enjoyed by all who attended and reflecting the fantastic community activity and spirit of individuals and communities of the Vale of Glamorgan."

GVS was proud to sponsor the Volunteer of the Year Award and would particularly like to congratulate all the nominees and the shortlisted individuals – Nerys Thomas (nominated for her work with Marie Curie), Phil Sedgmond (nominated for his work in Karate and Barry Kyokushin) and of course our truly worthy winner Janet Rees for all her work in setting up and running Cwtch Cymru, a group supporting those experiencing depression and anxiety. Congratulations to you all.

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Cows On Tour launches a 'Grow Your Own' competition

Schools will be decorating their wooden cow planters for the competition.

SCHOOLS and local businesses across south Wales are being encouraged to join forces as part of a competition aimed at igniting children's interest in food and farming.

A 'Wooden Cow – Grow Your Own' competition has been created by the Cows on Tour team, whose core members include local farmers Abi Reader, Chris Hanks and Glamorgan Young Farmers' Club welfare officer, Rebecca Macgregor, as part of a wider drive to help children understand where their food comes from.

The contest will involve local businesses or schools paying £50 to sponsor a model wooden cow that doubles up as a planter, to decorate and grow plants in. Schools are encouraged to send in photo collages of their decorated cow, along with 200 words on their idea.

The winners will be announced at the Royal Welsh Smallholding and Countryside Festival at the Royal Welsh Showground in Llanelwedd on May 18-19, where all collages will be displayed.

The class that wins the competition will get one child ticket per class to attend the Royal Welsh Show, with two further adult tickets for the teacher and teaching assistant of the winning class.

Funds raised through the initiative will support rural farming charities, the DPJ Foundation and RABI.

The fun model cows were created using wood donated by Premier Forest Products and created by members of the South Wales Woodwork Club, who crafted the wooden farm animals free to support the Cows on Tour team.

Wenvoe dairy farmer Abi Reader said: "We are hoping that these wooden cow planters are a fun way to ignite children's interest in farming and where their food comes from. The Cows on Tour team are looking forward to seeing colourful and imaginative decorated cows entered into the 'Wooden Cow – Grow Your Own' competition from schools across Wales. We are very grateful to Premier Forest Products and South Wales Woodwork Club for their support in making this fun idea a reality, as well as supporting good causes in the process."

Those wishing to get involved with the 'Wooden Cow - Grow Your Own' initiative should contact the Cows on Tour team on their Facebook page or email CowonTourfarmers@gmail.com.

DJ

Ramblers step out for a birthday walk on the Gower

PENARTH and District Ramblers celebrated their 26th birthday in style by travelling to the Gower peninsula, initially through thick fog, which dispersed to leave glorious warm sunshine all day.

From Parc le Breos, the group of 19, led by Joy, entered Parkmill and followed the Pennard Pill River through its beautiful valley overlooked by the remains of Pennard Castle.

Clambering up through the dunes, the Wales Coast Path led them above Little Tor Bay, then down through woodland and into Nicholaston Burrows for celebratory goodies baked by Josie.

Making their way across the Nicholaston Pill River via a raised footbridge, the wide open sand on Oxwich Bay beckoned them for the journey to Oxwich village, where they turned inland.

A descent via a sunken path led them by road onto Penrice Estate land with its ruined castle and fine mansion house overlooking splendid parkland, before a climb to the A4118 for the journey to the quiet hamlet of Perriswood.

The last climb led onto the ridgeway of Cefn Bryn with its ponies and trilling skylarks, then downhill to Penmaen to continue through Northill Woods for the short trek past the pretty ford in Parkmill back to the start.

For her first walk as a leader for the group, Alison and her nine companions set off from St Brides Major uphill and across Old Castle Down in lovely sunshine with a cool breeze, before descending into Cwm Alun.

Stepping stones at Pont y Brown led them across the river for morning break after which they journeyed on by road and through fields, dropping downhill through Corntown where Tingle Lane brought them to the historic Ewenny Priory.

Fortunately for the group, the gardens, house and deer park were open to the public and after a quick look around, they moved on to visit the Priory Church dedicated to St Michael before stopping for lunch.

Heading along Corntown Road past the old Baptismal Pool adorned with marsh marigold, they headed uphill on Heol y Cawl and into cropped fields at Corntown Farm and gazing northwards, the gloomy dark clouds were dumping rain on the woodlands and hills of the Ogmore and Garw valleys.

By track and field, they reached the railway line and descended through a field to the clapper bridge over the clear River Alun, glinting in the sunlight.

Some road walking led to Coed y Bwl, renowned for its small wild daffodils in season, then up a track to cropped fields at the rear of Blackhall to join the road that would lead them back down into St Brides.

For up to date information, log onto www.penarthramblers.wordpress.com or follow on Facebook. Programmes and membership advice can be obtained from Pam on 029 2025 5102.

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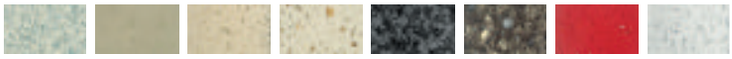

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Vale families say that new M4–A48 link road plans have 'left them in limbo'

FAMILIES left in limbo by plans to build a major new road fear more than a decade of uncertainty as the council is not telling them what the plans mean for their homes.

Campaigners say nine families would be forced to leave their homes if plans for a new link road between the M4 and A48 around the village of Pendoylan go ahead.

Many of the families potentially affected by the plans have lived there for decades and thought they had found their forever homes in the picturesque Ely Valley in the Vale of Glamorgan.

But now they are facing daily anxiety and stress over the future of their homes – because since the council announced the plan more than a year ago it has not told the residents whether it would compulsorily purchase their homes to make way for the road or give them any compensation.

Residents say that it has meant they are unable to sell and move on even if they wanted to as the uncertainty is frightening buyers away.

Residents and campaigners are also questioning whether the road – which the council says will link the M4 with Cardiff Airport – is really needed and claim it would "destroy" the area if it was built.

Concerns have been raised about pollution from the proposed road, which would would pass near to Pendoylan Primary School, and whether the council has seriously considered options to improve the area's infrastructure which don't involve building a new road.

The Vale Council says it's in the early stages of the project and no decision to build the road has been agreed, and there will be further opportunities for residents to air their views.

Anke Weber and Simon Reid moved to their home in Trehedyn Lane nine years ago.

Anke said: "It's very frustrating. It feels very worrying because you don't know what the future is going to hold.

"We feel our property is gradually deteriorating because we're not doing anything to it. All the enthusiasm is being sucked out of us.

"It goes through phases. When I first heard I was really anxious, couldn't sleep, I was upset. Then you go through a phase where you deny it's going to happen. Recently it's flared up again.

"I think this road shouldn't happen at all. We would much rather stay here. I don't feel we need another road."

The Vale Council announced last week it favours a road stretching to the west of Pendoylan, linking junction 34 of the M4 with the A48 south of Sycamore Cross.

The council is also expected to press the case for a new railway station and a park and ride near junction 34 which would link to Cardiff Airport.

In total the airport had almost 1.5m customers in 2017/18.

The council will carry out further studies on the proposal before progressing to a full business case.

Jon and Miranda Williams have lived in their home in Pendoylan for 20 years – but if the road is built it would come within 20m of their house. They say they've also not been told whether the council will buy their house.

Jon said: "We have already been told we can't sell our house. We don't want to move but this takes the choice away from you.

"The idea was this was going to be our forever home and then our son gets it. Now that can't happen."

Miranda added: "We don't understand why a road is necessary. I think the public transport needs to be improved – they should be discouraging more cars.

"It really feels like home. To move for this reason – it's just not needed."

Dorothy Samuel's husband has Alzheimer's disease – and she doesn't know if she'll be able to sell their home of 10 years in Clawdd Coch if she needs to pay for his care.

She said: "They should scrap the road altogether. It would just move the traffic from the motorway onto the A48.

"It's destroying our village."

A council report says the road would offer "potentially substantial benefits in terms of connectivity" to the Vale of Glamorgan.

Paul Waite, who lives in Bryn Bedw, added: "For my wife and I, this is our first home together. Recently newlywed, we have saved hard to buy our dream home and it's devastating that this unnecessary proposal could put our future in limbo for the next five to 10 years."

Campaigners are also concerned a review group to consider the road plans has had no representation from either environment or conservation bodies.

A Vale Council spokesman said: "A WelTAG stage two transport study is currently being undertaken for the M4 junction 34 to A48 transport project. As such no decision to build a new road has been made, neither has a detailed road alignment been agreed. Currently we are very much in the early investigative stages of this project.

"There will be formal statutory processes that will need to be followed if the project progresses beyond this stage two study. These will again enable the views of interested parties and any other relevant factors to be considered before a final decision about whether a road is built is made."

Matt Discombe
Local democracy reporter

Soroptimists welcome new member

President Mary Tornabene, Stephanie and Sian Howells.

THE Barry Soroptimists were happy to welcome a new member, Stephanie Tarling.

Stephanie is from Barry, her family had Greens the jeweller and a bookshop in Barry Dock. She went to Romilly and St Helen's schools and then to the Barry Girls' Grammar school. She worked in Germany before the fall of the Berlin Wall where she met her husband and had two daughters, and she has now decided to come back to her home town of Barry and is active as a volunteer at Dyffryn House.

Stephanie is keen to be a member of the Soroptimists, helping local and national charities.

To find out more about the Soroptimists visitwww.sigbi.org/barryanddistrict.

PACT meetings

GIBBONSDOWN 'Cuppa with a Copper,' is every Monday morning at the Aberaeron HUB, Aberaeron Close, Barry, between 10am and 12 noon.

A 'coffee and chat' PACT will be at ST MARY'S HILL Golf Club at 11am on Tuesday, April 16.

If you have any issues that are affecting your quality of life, but are unable to attend a meeting, contact 101 for non emergencies or log onto:www.south-wales.police.uk where you will find contact details for your local PCSO to contact them directly for non emergency matters.

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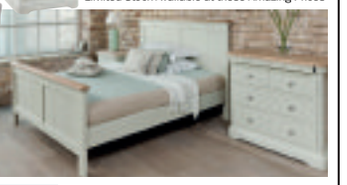

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Textile exhibition in Penarth

AN exhibition by Haf Weighton and Carol Bartlett, two Welsh textile artists, will run from April 12 to May 30, Monday to Sunday from 9am-5pm at the Penarth Pier Pavilion.

The exhibition is entitled 'Adre', which is Welsh for 'Home'.

Haf and Carol work with thread, focussing on the landscape of Penarth, their home town, and the areas of Barry and Cardiff.

Haf's recent work has explored Cardiff's Victorian arcades and the architectural link with Penarth. She uses paint and stitch in her work and has exhibited widely, including the Saatchi Gallery and locally through the Arts Council of Wales.

Carol is the co-owner of fabric shop, Sew Lovely. Inspired by an old photograph, she created a shop front in stitch which developed into a series of stitched pictures based on Victorian and Edwardian photographs and sketches of Penarth. Carol uses collaged fabric with free-motion and hand embroidery and recently exhibited at the London Contemporary Crafts Fair.

There will also be textile art work created by local children on the theme of 'Identity' at the Pier along the upper gallery.

For further information on the exhibition, call Penarth Pier Pavilion on 02920 712100.

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INVESTORS IN PEOPLE

Share The Load project to improve mental health in rural community

"ONE in four people will suffer a mental health issue in their lifetime, with agriculture carrying one of the highest rates of suicide."

These were the sobering statistics from Emma Picton-Jones, founder of The DPJ Foundation, when she spoke to NFU Cymru staff.

The NFU Cymru team listened avidly as Emma, who recently delivered a full day's mental health training to the team, gave an emotional account of the reason she set up the charity in July 2016 and explained all the great work the foundation had achieved in recent years.

The DPJ Foundation aims to support people in rural communities affected by mental health issues, especially men in the agricultural sector, and aims to break down the stigma that surrounds mental health.

NFU Cymru Head of Operations, Kevin Owen, said: "Farming can be an isolated profession, it's hugely traditional and often carries a resistance towards seeking help. Farmers are at the mercy of the elements and many factors are out of their control. All these issues combined can contribute to depression and anxiety, and if not dealt with, can slowly spiral out of control.

"With this in mind, we organised mental health awareness training as we believe now more than ever we must all be talking about mental health and the many ways that people can seek help – this was the first in a series of training sessions to be rolled out across our network in Wales."

NFU Cymru's message to all is to look out for your family, friends and neighbours and if you notice a change in their personality or appearance, talk to them. Starting up a conversation and listening to their problems is the best way to understand their issues and further assess what support they may wish to access. Farming is one big community – we must all take responsibility in looking out for those in need.

The DPJ Foundation has a campaign, #ShareTheLoad, which aims to raise awareness of their talking therapies and counselling service. This ties in to NFU Mutual's #MindYourHead campaign, which aims to raise awareness of mental health issues within the farming community and to get people talking.

If you, or someone you know, is suffering with poor mental health, call The DPJ Foundation on 0800 5874262 or text 07860 048799 for confidential advice.

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‘Parking charges and school funding on the agenda’

Welsh Secretary **ALUN CAIRNS** reports to GEM readers

FIRSTLY, I want to congratulate everyone at Barry Town United for qualifying for the Europa League and express how proud we all are of their achievements this season. Gavin Chesterfield and his team have done an excellent job and I wish them every success going forward.

On the key issues impacting the Vale, last week the Environment and Regeneration Scrutiny Committee discussed the proposal to introduce parking charges. I sent comments to the committee, strongly setting out my opposition to charges. We have learned that the charges would do little in terms of bringing in revenue for the local authority but would present a major challenge to local traders.

Businesses in Cowbridge, Llantwit Major and Barry, particularly on Barry Island, have worked hard with the local authority to build a destination for visitors, which attracts people and creates jobs. Barry Island recently featured in the Department for International Trade’s prospectus for investment opportunities at a global summit. We need to continue to embrace opportunities and resist throwing up barriers to investment and progress.

I’m pleased that councillors at the scrutiny meeting listened to our concerns and recommended changes to the proposals. However, readers should note that this is only one step in the process and the fight against parking charges isn’t over yet.

Another matter causing deep concerns to teachers, parents and governors as we enter the new financial year is the underfunding of local schools and the consequences this has on school budgets.

I have serious concerns about the current state of school funding in the Vale by the Welsh Government, which puts the Vale at the bottom of the funding table. That’s why I have written to Jane Hutt AM to ask that she works with me and others on a cross-party approach to tackle this issue.

The Welsh Government’s funding formula works against the Vale, compared with other local authorities in Wales. The data sets that are being used are 20 years old, again prejudicing against the Vale.

I have tried once before to organise a cross-party campaign to the Welsh Government seeking a change. Unfortunately, the response from other political parties at that time was disappointing, to say the least, and the Welsh Government’s reply was that to change the formula, all 22 local authorities would have to agree. Clearly, this is highly unlikely to happen when some would become worse off – even if more equitable.

The Welsh Government also said that they were merely passing on Westminster cuts to schools. This is wholly wrong. Within the first six months of becoming the Secretary of State for Wales, I negotiated a new funding formula with the Treasury and with the Welsh Government. Wales now receives £120 for every £100 spent in England. Mark Drakeford, the then Finance Minister agreed at the time that it was a fair settlement.

In the meantime, this remains an issue and presents a significant challenge to local schools. I will again try to organise a cross party campaign to seek changes and I am hopeful that we can achieve a positive outcome for pupils in the Vale.

Finally, at the end of this month, I’m running my eighth London Marathon to raise funds for Dementia Revolution and Guide Dogs Cymru. Although recent events have meant that I haven’t quite managed to keep training on track, the thought of supporting these charities and the incredible work that they do will no doubt get me over the line.

I’ve been working with both of these incredibly important charities recently and I’m really looking forward to playing a role supporting them.

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Shazam is assured, but doesn’t quite have the magic touch...

SCREEN TALK with GARETH JAMIESON

Follow Screen Talk on Twitter - @GEMScreenTalk

THE DCEU is starting to lighten up.

While *Wonder Woman* was a step into a brighter future, critically and commercially, *Aquaman*’s sense of fun and scale (and a box office take of over $1 billion) means that the universe seems to be embracing brevity over brutality.

The latest DC film is *Shazam*, which tells the story of Billy Batson (Asher Angel), a foster child who moves into a group foster home and immediately draws the attentions of Freddie Freeman (Jack Dylan Grazer).

When Billy is magically transported from a train carriage to the sanctum of The Wizard (Djimon Hounsou), he is bequeathed powers he can access via the use of a single word – ‘Shazam’ – which turns him into Zachary Levi’s hero with super-strength and the ability to fly, among other things.

Eager to use his skills for good, Billy soon finds himself tested when the dangerous Dr Thaddeus Sivana (Mark Strong) decides he wants Billy’s powers for himself – and will stop at nothing to get them...

Conscious or not, the arrival of *Shazam* is a definite upturn in terms of bringing a sense of fun to the DCEU (there’s no way you can imagine this character, especially as portrayed here, showing up in Zack Snyder’s *Batman vs Superman* for example). But those hoping for a *Wonder Woman* or *Aquaman*-esque upturn in quality will be a little disappointed, as while *Shazam* is certainly no disaster, neither is it a film that resonates.

Much of the problem lies in the dreaded ‘origin story’; never an easy place to start for a filmmaker, and especially when the universe coming to life here is so rich, it struggles often under the weight of its own narrative, and then, when established, doesn’t offer anything particularly original.

While it doesn’t quite play ‘join the dots’, it does use well-worn tropes and uses them without undercutting them.

But its most obvious touchstone lies not in the world of superheroes, but in the world of Tom Hanks 1980s comedies – while comparisons to *Big* are fairly obvious (and, in one scene, riffed on smartly) there is a strong sense of that film being channelled here, which helps to lend it an airy, lighthearted tone in the main.

The casting is pretty spot-on: Asher Angel as the damaged Billy is smart yet emotionally vulnerable, while Jack Dylan Grazer as the superhero-obsessed Freddie (cue plenty of subtle references to DC films of the past) is smart-mouthed and immensely likeable.

It hangs on the performance of Zachary Levi, however, whose man-child in a cape is wonderfully realised. Levi has smart comic timing and convinces that, while he has the body of an Olympian, he has the mindset of a teenager.

The performances around them are all likeable enough, but Mark Strong’s villainous Sivana doesn’t really connect. The story at least tries to give him a backstory that funnels his modern-day motivations but, along with his CGI sidekicks, not even an actor as skilled in onscreen villainy as Strong (his second DC villain after playing Sinestro in 2011’s unconnected *Green Lantern*) can convince.

Having built his reputation in the horror genre, David F Sandberg may seem like an out-of-the-box choice to helm a lighthearted superhero film, but he shows a steady and assured hand. There are moments where his horror past comes out to play (a boardroom sequence is chilling, even with a 12A rating), but he seems to relish playing in this world and does a decent, if unspectacular, job.

What it lacks is that extra bit of excitement: that magic dust that makes the ordinary extraordinary; the character of Shazam is one that is extremely interesting, and, should they make further films, there is plenty of potential there – however, for his debut outing, he’s just a little too ordinary.

VERDICT: Another DC hero makes his big-screen bow, and while lacking the elegant poise of *Wonder Woman* or the underwater craziness of *Aquaman, Shazam* offers a steady and assured debut. David F Sandberg’s direction ticks the boxes and the cast are all superb company, but it lacks that magic touch to lift it to another level. *Enjoyable*.

SEE THIS IF YOU LIKED: *Green Lantern* (2011), *Aquaman* (2018)..

15 years of fun for food festival!

FOOD and drink heaven for festival goers, the bustling, vibrant atmosphere that is the Cowbridge Food and Drink Festival will this year celebrate its 15th birthday, with lots of new and exciting additions planned to mark the occasion in style!

A real highlight in the Welsh foodie calendar, this year’s event will for the first time play host to its own Vegan Festival – food, drink, cosmetics and clothes, and all included in the festival ticket price.

It promises to be a whole weekend of foodie, family-friendly fun with over 100 exhibitors and three key sites allow something for all.

Free children’s activities – from willow weaving to pizza making and ‘have a go’ ceramics in the Old Hall, food demonstrations, TV chefs, tempting tastings, music and dancing; this is a food festival, but far more than just a food festival.

It takes place on May 26-27 and tickets are £5 (ticket) and £8 (weekend). For further information and to book tickets, visit www.cowbridgefoodanddrink.org.

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Does your waste and recycling collection day fall on the Easter Bank Holiday?

Please don’t forget to place out your waste and recycling as normal this **Good Friday** and **Easter Monday** for collection*.

Recycling

- **Easter egg packaging, including card, plastic and foil can be placed in your green box/blue bag.**
- **All your food leftovers including vegetable peelings and chocolate! Can go in your food waste bin.**

*please remember the only exception to the 2 black bag limit per household is Christmas and New Year

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What's on, and where in your area?

Care & Repair

CARE & Repair Cardiff and the Vale, your local charity for older people assisting with repairs, adaptations and maintenance will be at Penarth Library between 10am-12 noon on Thursday, April 11.

If you are a homeowner with a housing issue, come along!

Book sale

LLANTWIT Major and Cowbridge Lions Club will be holding a used book sale on Saturday, April 13, from 10am to 3pm outside Caffe Nero, Waitrose car park, Cowbridge. All proceeds to support the work of Lions; all welcome to browse.

Spring table top sale

A TABLE Top Sale in Peterston-Super-Ely church and community hall will take place on Saturday, April 13 from 10am - 12pm.

Entry is free and we usually have a wide range of stalls from bric-a-brac (gems from spring cleaning), to toys and some craft stalls. To book a table and for further details, call Pat on 01446 760267.

This is in addition to the usual village market held on the second Saturday of every month from 10am – 12pm, selling delicious homemade cakes, preserves, produce, plants and a very extensive collection of books. Freshly brewed Fairtrade coffee and tea are served. All proceeds go towards the improvement and maintenance of the hall.

Easter cake sale

FRIENDS of Penarth Library will hold an Easter cake sale and drop-in children's craft session with local artist Mari Wirth at the library in Stanwell Road on Saturday, April 13 between 10am and 1pm.

Brexit meeting

VALE MP Alun Cairns will hold another Brexit meeting this weekend.

It will take place on Saturday, April 13 from 11am – 12:30pm at Barry Town FC, Jenner Park Stadium, Barry Road, Barry CF62 9BG. All Vale of Glamorgan constituents are welcome. Please email *alun.cairns.mp@parliament.uk* to register attendance.

Neighbourhood Watch AGM

Highlight Park Community Neighbourhood Watch group is holding its annual general meeting on April 15, at 7pm.

The guest speakers will be PC Bleddyn Jones, Neighbourhood Beat Manager and PCSO Russell Evans. The topic will be local crime issues, and also raising awareness of the threat to young people and vulnerable adults of being coerced or forced into criminal activities.

VOG Fire & Security will also attend, offering advice on safety and protection systems for the home.

Care and Repair

IF you are you a homeowner or private tenant living in the Vale, perhaps elderly or disabled and in need of advice or support on repairs or home improvements, Care and Repair Cardiff and Vale can help.

They give advice on grants available and information on reputable companies to use. Care and Repair will hold a session at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, April 16 from 10am to 12pm; no appointment is needed, just drop in. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

Free legal advice

AGE Connects Cardiff and Vale are holding a legal session at their Senior Health Shop, 38 Holton Road, Barry on Tuesday, April 16 from 10am to 12pm.

If you are over 50, maybe worried about making a Will, arranging Power of Attorney or Living Will for example, you can chat to a legal team based in Barry.

No appointment is needed, just come along; call 01446 732385 for further information.

Cowbridge U3A History Group

THE next Cowbridge U3A History Group meeting will be a talk entitled 'The Medieval Cult of St Christopher' by Professor Madeleine Gray at 10pm on Thursday, April 18 in Cowbridge Town Hall.

Visitors welcome; there is a small fee. See *www.u3asites.org.uk/cowbridge* for further information.

Barry War Museum's Book Fest

BARRY War Museum will host a Book Fest on Easter Saturday, April 20, bringing together local authors, publishers, scriptwriters and an award-winning film maker at this free event.

Do you enjoy ghost stories or science fiction – or prefer to lose yourself in a romantic novel? Writers of thrillers, comedy, horror and local interest will all be on hand; renowned military historians will attend with their published works on World War One and World War Two - true stories of local lads who went to war.

There will be children's authors too – all happening from 11am – 3.30pm on Easter Saturday at The Old Railway Station, Barry Island. The steam or vintage trains will be running, the café is open for refreshments and Barry War Museum will be open from 11am to 3.30pm over all four days of the Easter weekend. Free entrance every day.

New Life Church Easter egg hunt

ON Sunday, April 21 (Easter sunday) at New Life Church, Barry Island ,from 11am an Easter service will be held – all welcome!

An Easter egg hunt will take place on the beach.

Easter egg hunt

LLANTWIT Major Surf Lifesaving Club is holding an event on Monday, April 22, at 11am at the beach lifeguard hut on Llantwit Major Beach.

There will be an Easter egg hunt, face painting, a 'name the bunny' competition, bacon baps, cakes and hot drinks.

Epilepsy support

EPILEPSY Wales run a monthly outreach support group at Age Connects Cardiff and Vale Senior Health Shop in Holton Road, Barry.

This will be held on Thursday, April 25 ,from 10.30am to 12pm. Health care professional Lesley Williams from Epilepsy Wales will be in attendance: find out what is available in your area – support groups and advice. No appointment is needed, just come along. Call 01446 732385 for further information.

A Wartime Childhood

RHOOSE and District History Society is hosting a talk by Mr John Sheen whose topic is 'Five Boys and a Pasty (memories of a wartime childhood)'.

It takes place on Friday, April 26, at 7.30pm at Rhoose Community Centre. Adults £1 and children 50p.

The Bath trip is back!

THE trip to Bath (fondly known as 'The Trip'), is back by popular demand on Saturday, May 18, leaving Llantwit Major at 9am and Bath at 5pm, and will cost £20. For tickets, *email julieleah3@hotmail.com* or call 07780 475877.

The money raised will go towards the Llantwit Major Christmas committee. A Cowbridge pick up is possible, depending on numbers; and raffle prizes would also be welcome.

Diabetes event

ROB Lee from Diabetes UK will give a talk: 'What Is Your Experience of Diabetes Services?' on Tuesday, May 21 in the Board Room, Llandough Hospital, Penarth from 7.30pm-9pm; everyone welcome.

PACT meetings

Newton PACT at Newton School Rooms, Newton on Tuesday, April 23 at 6.30pm.

Litchard, Pendre and Coity PACT at Litchard Mission, Litchard on Thursday, April 25 at 7pm.

Oldcastle PACT at the Library, Brynteg Comprehensive School on Thursday, May 2 at 6pm.

Morfa town PACT at Penybont Junior School, Minerva Street, Bridgend on Thursday, May 9 at 6pm.

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The best news you could even hear this: "For God so loved the world that he gave his one and only Son, that whoever believes in him shall not perish, but have eternal life!"

Family Fun Afternoon
Sat. 13th April, 4-6pm
Crafts, Fun, Bible talk and food
Good Friday Service
Fri. 19th April, 10:30am
Followed by tea/coffee & hot cross buns
Easter Coffee Morning
Weds. 17th April 10.30am
Followed by tea/coffee & hot cross buns
Easter All-age Service
Sun. 21st April 10:30am
Followed by tea/coffee & hot cross buns

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ENERGY EFFICIENT

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Free French door up to 1200mm or patio door up to 1400mm wide, French or Patio door is for white upvc double glazed option. Terms and conditions apply, please ask for details. Window package prices are for white casement windows. Offers cannot be used with any other advertised offer, cannot be used in conjunction with any other or previous quotation, discount or offer. Each section of a bay window counts as one window, maximum window size 2.5M x 1.3M. G2S reserve the right to withdraw any offer without prior notice. Finance is only available on orders over £1000.00 And is subject to approval and availability. The G2S group is authorised and regulated by the financial conduct authority. The firm appears on the financial services register (frn: 670683) and is authorised to provide credit broking services. The G2S group act as an intermediary and only offer products from creation consumer finance limited. Creation consumer finance is authorised and regulated by the financial conduct authority (frn: 311518). E&oe March 2019. Images are for illustration purposes only.

Happy Easter
High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St
Welcome BARRY You
Happy Easter

High Street delivers the 'feelgood factor'

WHAT makes Barry's High Street Shopping Quarter extra special? Well, in a nutshell, the feelgood factor.

Whenever you visit the businesses there, they bristle with energy and enthusiasm. You are guaranteed a warm welcome and a personal service.

In High Street, Broad Street, Island Road and Market Street, there's a huge range of independent businesses from jewellers and toy shops to florists and gift shops.

The traders have always been keen to put something back into the community, organising regular Christmas, Easter and summer events which draw thousands of people.

No wonder High Street was once voted in the top five independent shopping areas of the UK.

In fact, local traders picked up another well-deserved award last week.

They won the Bro Radio 'Making a Difference Through Business Award,' sponsored by the Glamorgan GEM!

Former chairman of High Street Traders, Tony Hopkins, who was on hand to receive the award, said: "I still can't believe we won. To be nominated for the award was an honour itself but to win is just amazing.

"High Street has always had strong ties with the local community because most of the shop owners live in Barry so the events that we hold are our way of giving something back to our community.

"Planning and holding these events takes a lot of time and effort but seeing the crowds they attract and the happy smiling faces on the day makes all of the hard work worthwhile.

"Winning the award shows our efforts are appreciated and as long as the people want events in High Street, we'll keep on holding them.

"Thank you to everyone who nominated and voted for us, we really are proud to have won."

High Street Traders were thrilled to win the Bro Radio 'Making a Difference Through Business Award' sponsored by the Glamorgan GEM.

Shahi Noor celebrates its 30th birthday!

THE popular restaurant and takeaway Shahi Noor, renowned for its Indian dishes, is celebrating its 30th anniversary this year.

Owner Mr Rahman said its enduring appeal was because it offered exceptional variety and the highest quality Indian cuisine.

He said: "Our aim is to bring together the best dishes from the Indian sub-continent, cooked by our team of top chefs.

"We are passionate about great food and we want our customers to enjoy the highest quality and the most delicious authentic dishes. At Shahi Noor you can enjoy biriyani, balti, chef special dishes, prawns, korahi specials, Persian dishes, vegetable dishes and many more."

Bookings can be made by calling 01446 735706 or 732338. To view the full menu, go to *www.shahinoor.co.uk*

SHAHI·NOOR
DELIVERY SERVICE AVAILABLE
Charges may apply
Fully Licensed Restaurant & Takeaway
Established Since 1989
Celebrating our 30th Anniversary
Mr Rahman and staff would like to thank their loyal customers for their continued support and wish them a
Happy Easter.
Check out our website for full menu
www.shahinoor.co.uk
Open: Sun to Thurs
5.30pm - 11.30pm
Fri & Sat 5.30pm - 12.30am.
Closed Tuesday.
OPEN BANK HOLIDAY MONDAY
01446 735706 / 732338
Book your table through text message: 07882 398512
87 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DX

Vintage coffee shop is the ideal place for a break

Afternoon tea is a speciality at The Grind House.

AFTER your Easter shopping in High Street, why not meet up with friends for coffee and cake or lunch and a glass of wine?

The Grind House is a lovely vintage coffee shop offering freshly brewed coffee and tea, fresh cakes and pastries, or a Welsh breakfast, with locally produced homemade sausages, and is served all day.

Lunchtimes include freshly made paninis, baguettes, jacket potatoes or home cooked honey roast ham and chips.

Treat yourselves to an afternoon tea with sandwiches, scones with jam and clotted cream, homemade cupcakes, coconut macaroons and crisps, and unlimited tea or coffee; or celebrate a special occasion with a bottle of Prosecco.

The Grind House is also available for baby showers and other celebrations.

The GRIND HOUSE Est 2016
Coffee, Food & Mood
Enjoy our afternoon tea!
A Happy Easter to all our customers
86 High Street, Barry
01446 679 768

Vinylize will supply your printed clothing

Tony Peters prints designs on clothing and produces posters for clients.

TONY Peters began his Vinylize business from home and now has a large showroom on Broad Street.

He's the go-to man for dozens of companies and clubs in the Vale, supplying all sorts of clothing with an embroidered or printed finish.

He told The GEM: "We print designs on all sorts of clothing such as t-shirts, hoodies, football tops and sports kit.

"We've supplied companies, football clubs, karate clubs, rowing teams and surf lifesaving clubs. We provide a lot of t-shirt tops for hen and stag parties."

Designs don't just go on items of clothing – Tony can put them on canvas. Family photos, for example, can make a nice gift. He also produces a lot of posters for clients.

Vinylize is located at 21 Broad Street, Barry (01446 311935).

Vinylize
Printing and Embroidery
Hoodies, choice of tops,
Sports - work & casual wear
Canvas photo printing
21 Broad Street, Barry, CF62 7AD
01446 311935 / 07828 057381

Budding Designs is available 24 hours a day!

Nicola Hopkins of Budding Designs Flower Studio will soon celebrate her first anniversary at High Street, Barry.

BUDDING Designs Flower Studio, which is about to celebrate its first anniversary on High Street, is a florist and gift shop wrapped into one.

What's more, customers can call into the shop at 1 High Street or browse at their leisure online at www.buddingdesigns.co.uk.

The owner, Nicola Hopkins, who qualified at Pencoed Horticultural College in 1993, said: "Our first year has gone really well. We specialise in wedding flowers, sympathy flowers and arrangements for specials occasions like birthdays and anniversaries.

"We also run popular workshops throughout the year on hand-tied bouquets, flower headdresses and Christmas wreaths.

"We also have lots of homeware gifts, a card selection and gift vouchers."

When Nicola started the business, she was determined to make her products and services as accessible as possible and explained: "Not everybody can get down to High Street – that's why so many people like to browse the website – we can also be found on Facebook and Instagram."

BUDDING DESIGNS
FLOWER STUDIO
Easter
Workshops, Online Ordering, Weddings, Sympathy
www.buddingdesigns.co.uk
1 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DZ
01446 404660

High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St BARRY

Welcome You

Food for Thought delicacies will tempt you this Easter!

The Food for Thought team wants to wish their customers a very happy Easter.

VISITING 'Food for Thought' family deli and takeaway is always a pleasure.

It's not just the delicious foods, it's the warm welcome customers receive. Many are known by their first names. That's not surprising, because the deli has acquired dozens of regulars over many years.

The business was first started 36 years ago by Dave and Lynda Keeble. Their son Nathan and his wife Sarah took over running the deli in 2001, but with the same friendly style.

The cheerful team are always on the go – providing an endless supply of baguettes, sandwiches, paninis, pasties and salads for local workers and High Street business owners.

Of course, there's a mouth-watering array of other items to choose from – choice meats, bread, cheeses, chutneys, preserves and cakes.

With Easter on the horizon, it's advisable to make an early trip to Food for Thought to make sure you get what you need for the holiday break.

On Easter Saturday, the deli will open from 7pm until 4pm.

the deli
est 1983

Freshly made coffees to take away - Cappuccino, Latte, Americano, Espresso & Mocha

A selection of home made salads and home cooked meats

Fresh sandwiches, baguettes, rolls and paninis prepared from 7am

12 High Street, Barry
01446 735711
facebook.com/fftdeli | @FFTDeli
www.thedelibarry.co.uk

Family Magic Show free tickets!

THE World's Smallest Magic Theatre, The Small Space on Island Road in Barry, is giving away four tickets to their Easter Family Magic shows.

Fellow directors and Magic Circle magicians Bryan Gunton and Jasper Blakeley are presenting their 90-minute funny, family-friendly magic show during the holidays, and it's your chance to be there too!

Suitable for children eight years old and up, this fast-paced funny magic show has amazing sleight of hand, mind-reading and traditional conjuring all mixed in with loads of fun and laughter.

For your chance to win four tickets (value £50) simply correctly name the face-down card underneath Bryan's hand in the photo and email your guess to: info@thesmallspace.co.uk.

Shows are from April 15 to April 26 and the competition closes on Sunday, April 14 at midnight. Correct answers will be put in a hat and the winner will be drawn at random and informed by noon on Monday, April 15.

Here's a clue: it's not a red card, it's not a spade, it's not a court card and it's lower than a 5…

For times and tickets for The Family Magic Show visit *www.thesmallspace.co.uk/whats-on*. The Small Space is at 5 Island Road, Barry CF62 7AR.

THE SMALL SPACE

The Smallest Theatre in Wales

Magic - Comedy - Music
Licensed Bar - Venue Hire

5 Island Road, Barry, CF62 7AR
www.thesmallspace.co.uk

Sew Lovely are thrilled to join Barry High Street

CONRAD and Carol Bartlett are delighted to bring their sewing shop to High Street, Barry, and are looking forward to welcoming new and old customers alike to the new premises.

They told The GEM: "We have had a very friendly welcome and hope our shop will bring new customers to this fantastic street.

"High Street in Barry is a great friendly area where you can get pretty much everything you need from independent retailers and we are glad to be a part of it.

"We have already run out of space filling the shop with fabric and haberdashery so we will continue to run our lessons and workshops from our studio in Penarth."

For more information go to: *www.sewlovelypenarth.com*

Conrad and Carol Bartlett are welcoming customers to their new premises at 30 High Street, Barry.

Sew Lovely
30 High Street, Barry CF62 7EB
For all your sewing needs
Fabric, Haberdashery & Singer Stockist
Sewing Lessons in our Penarth Studio
Haberdashery 07793503068 Studio 07583148278
www.sewlovelypenarth.com email sewlovelypenarth@gmail.com

TEN11 TEN11

Entertainment this April

Friday 12th April
Debyanne and the Doctor

Saturday 13th April
Mark Sheppard

Friday 19th April
The Maddisons

Saturday 20th April
DJ ED 80s - 90s Night

Bank Holiday Sunday
The Scoundrels

Friday 26th April
Jumpin Jimmy and the Nice Guys

Saturday 27th April
Peter Mortimore and Laura Dodd

Every Friday & Saturday from 10pm *DJ Willis*

Every Thursday from 6pm
Thirsty Thursday
Draft beers from £2.80 • Mixed drinks from £2.70

Every Sunday
HAPPY HOUR!
Drink specials from 6pm to midnight

Open: Thursday 8pm until 1am
Friday & Saturday 4pm until late
Sunday 6pm until midnight
10 - 11 Broad Street, Barry CF62 7AA
07737 883731 • bookings@ten11.co.uk

High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St BARRY

Welcome You

For that special item...

Bespoke Jewellery is on Island Road.

BESPOKE Jewellery on Island Road will make original pieces of jewellery to your design or revive old and broken ones.

The business has two goldsmiths, and if someone brings in a design they will create and produce the finished product. Bespoke Jewellery also supplies gemstones and diamonds.

The owner Robert Linder said: "We can also do repairs and remodelling of jewellery – melting something down and turning it into something new.

"We also have a clean and polish service for £10 to keep jewellery in the best condition. We can tighten stones that are moving around, or deal with a problem clasp or claw."

Robert advises people to have much loved pieces checked over once a year to make sure they are kept in the best possible condition.

BESPOKE ✦ JEWELLERY ✦ WORKSHOP ✦

• REMODELS
• REPAIRS
• VALUATIONS

• WEDDING RINGS
• ENGAGEMENT RINGS
• COMMISSIONS

BESPOKE JEWELLERY WORKSHOP ✦ 4 ISLAND ROAD, BARRY
01446 732017

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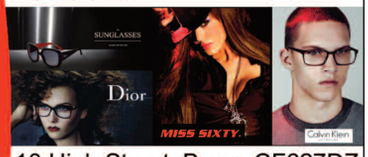
- Contact Lenses
- Home Visits



10 High Street, Barry, CF627DZ
01446 400015
www.jonesandjones.org.uk

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CACI
Non surgical facelifts and Brazilian butt lift
Intense Pulse Light Therapy
Long lasting solution to unwanted hair
43 HIGH STREET, BARRY
Tel. 01446 743222
All aspects of Beauty

'Magical' toys in the High Street

Jill Mathews has a huge range of traditional toys and many of them encourage youngsters to be creative.

GIGGLES is High Street's traditional toy shop with more than a few surprises up its sleeve.

Jill Mathews, who started the business more than six years ago, explained: "I wanted toys that are magical and educational and would encourage children to use their imaginations."

Many of the toys are collectable. There's the Ty Flippables range; popular puzzles including 'The World of David Walliams' and 'Roald Dahl'; the Top Model creative art and design range for girls; Dino Dudes Scratch and Sketch activity books; Jellycat super soft toys (ideal for little ones) and Orchard Toys, which are educational games and puzzles.

Jill is always on hand to provide advice to parents. She says there is always one theme that attracts youngsters – "anything to do with dinosaurs"!

GIGGLES

It's all about the BUNNIES
• Jellycat Bunnies
• Peter Rabbit & Friends ty beanies
• Peter Rabbit traditional wooden toys
• Jigsaws and games from 0 to adult
• Top model activity design books.
• Welsh Books • Greetings cards in Welsh and English.
73 High St. Barry • 01446 734866

Enjoy a new treatment at The Beauty Clinic

OVER the last 14 years Michaela Glass, owner of the Beauty Clinic at 43 High Street, has always striven to bring the most up to date beauty treatments to Barry.

One of the most popular treatments at the moment is COMCIT skin resurfacing, which uses cryo to freeze the face and micro-needling and oxygen to plump out fine lines and wrinkles.

But that's just one of the many treatments available – there's micro blading for eyebrows, hair removal, jowl lifts, eye revive, waxing, facials, nail extensions, reflexology and eyelash extensions.

To book your treatment call 01446 743222.

Beautiful bouquets in stock at Beautiful Lily

Award-winning florist Helen Huggins.

AWARD-WINNING 'Beautiful Lily Florist' at 92 High Street has an excellent reputation for its bouquets, wreaths and special arrangements.

Whether it's a wedding, birthday, anniversary or funeral, Beautiful Lily will create a stunning arrangement.

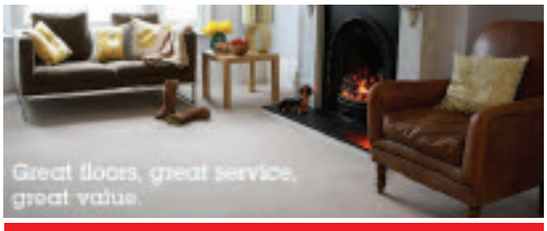
Last year, the owner Helen Huggins was named 'Welsh Florist of the Year' and this year she has been nominated in the independent business category of the Welsh Independent Retail Awards.

Helen said: "I want to thank all my customers for their support and wish them a happy Easter."

Beautiful Lily Florist
92 High Street, Barry
01446 677010
Easter Special
"Spring Posy" £12.00 .
(offer ends 15th April)
Happy Easter to all our customers!

beautifullily.vpweb.co.uk

Richard Jones CARPETS
31 years CELEBRATING
Serving the Vale with quality flooring
Flooring to suit every room in the home
★ NEW STOCK RANGES IN TIME FOR EASTER ★



For that touch of luxury
Shades of Grey
Introductory offer only £10.99 sq. mtr
25 Broad Street Parade, Barry
01446 740235
www.richardjonescarpets.co.uk

High St, Broad St, Island Rd and Market St BARRY

Welcome You

Look out for The GEM's full coverage of High Street's Easter activities in the coming weeks!

Vic Hopkins is now in store or online

Easter orders at Vic Hopkins & Son can be taken at the shop or online.

VIC Hopkins & Son Family Butchers Ltd, which has been providing high quality meat produce for more than 50 years, is one of the longest established local businesses and always keen to keep up to speed with the times.

Now customers can go online to select their choice meats – or, of course, pop into the shop.

The new website was launched in February and Anthony Hopkins explained: "I hope people will take time to visit the website. This Easter is our dry run for Christmas and it's an exciting innovation.

"We have our special Easter order form at the shop, but people can go on the website too. The deadline for Easter orders is Wednesday, April 17."

There's an Easter section on the website for people to browse. There's also a delivery service available, just ask in store for details, or visit the website. For more information, go to: *welshbutchers.co.uk*

VIC HOPKINS & SON
FAMILY BUTCHERS
Easter orders now being taken
Order instore or via our online shop:
www.welshbutcher.co.uk
93 High Street, Barry
01446 735265

Barringtons
PROPERTY MANAGEMENT & LETTING AGENTS
Landlords wanted
25 High St, Barry, CF62 7EB
01446 738388
barringtonslettings@hotmail.com

'HQ2 The Salon' invites you to launch party

From left to right: Mollie, Jaydene, Lucy, Dawn, Georgia, and Kate.

HQ2 The Salon has moved from Holton Road to 11 High Street and is holding a launch party on Saturday, April 13.

The owner Dawn Vaughan said: "People are welcome to come along and meet the team. There will be goodie bags, nibbles and Prosecco. The launch event starts at 4.30pm and goes on until late.

"Since we've come to High Street, the other traders have been wonderful – really welcoming and friendly. It is so nice to be part of the community."

All the women at HQ2 The Salon are trained to highest level – level three.

The salon offers all kinds of hair styling and cuts, eyebrows, eye-lash extensions, nails, semi-permanent makeup and waxing.

WE HAVE MOVED!
HQ2 The Salon
Professional Hair & Beauty
Now at 11 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DZ
(Next door to The Deli)
All Stylists qualified to level 3 and kept updated with the latest colour and cutting techniques.
Also available, Microblading, Nails and Lashes
Open Monday to Saturday 9am - 5pm and late night Thursday until 7.30pm
01446 400102

'Homemade in Wales' has great Springtime gifts

Fay Blakeley of Homemade Wales with Jonathan Griffiths of Gwaelod Y Garth Pottery.

HOMEMADE Wales specialises in working with local artists and makers to bring the people of the Vale (and beyond) unique gifts and homewares.

Since starting the business four and a half years ago, Fay Blakeley the owner has enjoyed meeting and discovering new artists and makers. One such maker is local potter Jonathan Griffiths of Gwaelod Y Garth Pottery.

Jonathan joined the Homemade Wales 'family' two years ago and creates beautiful hand thrown pots. Jonathan said: "It's a pleasure to work with Fay and Homemade Wales. She always pushes me to come up with new products and ideas for her customers.

"It's great to work with someone who understands the process and practice of professional artists."

Jonathan visited the shop earlier in the week to restock his popular hand-thrown homeware range, especially his 'Blodau' (flower) jugs.

Fay said: "We're delighted to be stocked for Easter, the jugs are the perfect size for spring flowers and make the perfect alternative gift to a chocolate egg."

You can find Homemade Wales on Facebook, Instagram and Twitter.

HOMEMADE WALES and beyond
Handcrafted Gifts & Homewares
Pasg Hapus
Happy Easter
9 High Street, Barry, CF62 7DZ
facebook.com/homemadewales

High Street Pharmacy's five-star service!

The team at High Street Pharmacy provides a friendly and efficient service for customers.

HIGH Street Pharmacy takes pride in being one of the few remaining independent pharmacies left in Barry, and in providing a smooth and efficient service for its customers.

Gwawr Davies Jones explained: "Our prescription collection service ensures our patients obtain their medication as seamlessly as possible.

"We firmly believe in going 'above and beyond' for all our customers because we know how stressful it can be dealing with GP surgeries and pharmacies, as well as looking after your own health.

"This is why we collect from all the surgeries in Barry and Sully every day and offer a free delivery service. Signing up to our repeat system is really easy – all patients need to do is pop in or give us a call on 01446 733789 and we'll do the rest. Find us on Facebook and you'll see all our five-star reviews!"

HIGHSTREET PHARMACY
WISHING ALL OUR CUSTOMERS A HAPPY EASTER
88 High Street, Barry
Tel: 01446 733789
www.highstreet pharmacy.wales
HIGHSTREET PHARMACY

Family stage music festival to remember 'incredible' Ben

THE family and friends of Ben McDonald, who died at the finish line of the 2018 Cardiff Half Marathon, have organised a festival style event called 'The BenJam' on May 2 at theDepot, Dumballs Road, Cardiff.

The event will include live music, food and stalls with the aim of bringing people together, celebrating his life and raising awareness and vital funds for the charity Welsh Hearts/Calonnau Cymru.

Ben's family said: "On October 7, 2018 our world was completely turned upside down when Ben McDonald died at the finish line of the Cardiff Half Marathon. He was 25 years old, fit and healthy, and his death has left our family shattered. If you didn't know Ben then you need to know he was amazing!

"He was funny, generous, caring, effortlessly cool, adventurous and always smiling, an incredible son, brother, uncle, grandson, and friend. If you didn't have the chance to meet him then you missed out on someone really special.

"Ben was always great at pulling people together, organising social events, hosting barbecues or pizza nights at our family home, gorge walking, or off on impromptu camping trips.

"He made good solid friends wherever he went. So in honour of him, and because of who he was, we want to keep that connection with people going. We are going to celebrate Ben's birthday in the way that he would: surrounded by people and trying to focus on the positive.

"We have chosen to support the work of Welsh Hearts, and all proceeds will be going to them. We chose Welsh Hearts because we believe in the work that they are doing to install defibrillators across Wales and to offer heart screening.

"Ben was also so proud to be Welsh! We don't know if screening would have helped Ben, and unfortunately on the day, the defibrillator wasn't able to save his life, but at least we know that he was given that chance. We believe that everyone should be given the same chance if they find themselves, or a loved one in a similar situation."

Since 2013 Welsh Hearts has played a leading role in improving heart health in Wales. This is vitally important work, since one third of all deaths in the country are as the result of cardiovascular disease.

To date they have supplied over 1,500 defibrillators, trained over 52,000 people in defibrillator and CPR training and screened over 2,500 young hearts for abnormalities.

The charity's heart screening initiative, which has been backed by former Wales Rugby captain Sam Warburton, involves a test which helps detect previously undiagnosed heart conditions in 10-45 year olds.

The McDonald family recently attended the delivery of a petition to the Senedd with Welsh Hearts charity director Sharon Owen, requesting that heart screening become mandatory for all 10-35 year olds.

"It's our mission to continue to provide defibrillators throughout Wales, to continue to grow the army of individuals who are fully trained in CPR and defibrillator use, and to lead the campaign for better awareness of cardiovascular health in Wales.

"We're so grateful to Ben's family for choosing to support us during what has been an incredibly difficult time for them. It's been an honour to get to know the people closest to Ben, and their resilience has been inspiring."

Confirmed acts for The BenJam include Dyme, Jellis and Jacob Sparkes with more to be announced. There will also be a raffle, with some incredible prizes including CIWW vouchers, Glamorgan T20 tickets, food and drinks vouchers for a selection of bars and restaurants across Cardiff, quad biking vouchers and more.

A Welsh rugby shirt, signed by the team the day after they won the Grand Slam this year will also be auctioned off for the charity, along with a rugby ball signed by Welsh Hearts ambassador and former Wales Rugby captain Sam Warburton.

The event is open to everyone of all ages. More information and tickets for The BenJam are available at *www.facebook.com/thebenjam710*.

For more information on Welsh Hearts' heart screening initiative and to book an appointment, visit *welshhearts.org/heart-screening-wales*.

The winning team from Pencoedtre High School.

School pupils soar in CAVC Aerospace Challenge

BUDDING aircraft engineers from schools across Cardiff and the Vale of Glamorgan have been put through their paces at a special Aero Challenge held by Cardiff and Vale College (CAVC).

The year-10 pupils travelled to the college's International Centre for Aerospace Training (ICAT) for the annual challenge.

The competition has been designed to give school pupils a taste of the various tasks involved in the aerospace engineering industry, and to show the value of vocational education, with CAVC learners helping out and acting as ambassadors.

A team from Pencoedtre High School won the contest, retaining their title as a team from the school were the winners last year. The competition involved tests of hand and eye skill and project management – the pupils also got to try their hands at the college's flight simulator.

Pencoedtre High School maths teacher Holly Bryant said: "ICAT is an amazing venue, the staff are really friendly and helpful from the moment you step into the building. The activities are great – the pupils really like the variety and I think it really shows a number of different avenues they could go down in the future.

"It was really nice to have the CAVC learners there too – they were really helpful and enthusiastic and the pupils liked speaking to them about the courses they were doing."

'Amazing' achievement at St Cyres

ST Cyres School in Penarth is pleased to announce that three of its teachers, Richard Hopkin, Laura Hilltout and Damian Parker, have been welcomed to the Apple Distinguished Educator class of 2019.

In 1994 Apple created the Apple Distinguished Educators (ADE) programme to recognise primary, secondary and higher education pioneers who use technology to transform teaching and learning. They describe ADEs as authors, advisors, ambassadors and advocates of what's possible by bringing new technology to teaching and learning.

There are now around 2,800 ADEs worldwide in 45 countries. St Cyres believes it to be unprecedented in the UK for three new ADEs to be successful from one school in the yearly programme.

Steve MacKenzie, education director for Apple, stated: "We think this is a tremendous credit to you all for your hard work in creating an innovation culture at St Cyres School and supporting this culture with ongoing professional learning."

Headteacher Dr Jonathan Hicks said: "A total of 175 ADEs came from Europe, Middle East, India and Africa with 36 from the UK in 2019. There are only three ADEs this year from Wales and, amazingly, they all come from St Cyres School.

"This outstanding achievement once again shows that St Cyres School is at the forefront of digital teaching and learning."

Valeways walkers stroll in the heart of the Vale

IT was a bright, warm sunny morning when 14 Valeways walkers joined John at the Sportsman's Rest in Peterston-super-Ely for a morning walk. Instead of going north across the railway, the group opted to go south towards Kingsland.

Leaving the village, they crossed the river Ely using the bridge built in 1869 by Thomas Miller, whose name is inscribed in a plaque on the bridge. They headed uphill, passing Croes-y-Parc Baptist Chapel, built in 1843 to seat 500 worshippers and the site of the grave of Dafydd Williams, a noted hymn writer.

They walked as far as the entrance to Kingsland where they left the road, crossed Kingsland's drive and continued uphill over field before arriving at St Nicholas. A path alongside the school playing field led them to a road and turning right, they walked behind the newly-thatched Blacksmith's cottages and crossed the A48.

Crossing fields with views ahead and behind them, they arrived at Tinkinswood Burial Chamber. Believed to be around 6,000 years old, the communal burial chamber is one of two in the area, and when excavated in 1914, the remains of 50 bodies were found.

Crossing Dyffryn Lane, they walked towards the Downs and then back over the A48 to cross the peaceful Natural Burial Ground into Haelfaes and a small valley, stopping for a while to watch twin lambs being born.

They joined the track from St Nicholas to Homri and then headed downhill over fields to reach the Wyndham Park estate, built in the early 1900s and part of the proposed Glyn Cory Garden Village development, influenced by the ideas of Ebenezer Howard to a plan devised by Thomas Adams in consultation with the garden designer, TH Mawson.

The group crossed the river by the modern footbridge to arrive back at the start where a warm welcome was waiting in the pub. Many thanks to the staff at the Sportsman's Rest for their hospitality and the use of the car park.

The Valeways spring programme is now available, visit www.valeways.org.uk for details.

John Treby,
Valeways walk leader

Farmers' union says that meat production statistics do not apply to Wales

RECENT reports highlighting the large quantities of water needed to produce meat and dairy products are well wide of the mark in Wales, where it's mainly rain water which irrigates the lush pastures, a spokesman for the Farmers' Union of Wales (FUW) has said.

Such reports are based on global figures which group together the extensively-reared cattle and sheep of Wales with the intensive farms of the US.

"Here the majority of stock benefit from green water, the worldwide definition of the rainfall that is used at the place where it falls," said Charlotte Priddy, FUW policy officer."

Although no studies currently focus on Wales, one looking at beef and lamb water footprints in England showed 84 per cent and 97 per cent respectively as 'green'.

Charlotte added: "It is so important to consider water use in context. In a temperate, wet climate such as Wales, grassland water requirements are adequately met by this green water from rainfall. Even when grey water is considered, more than 80 per cent of water consumption for beef and lamb production in the UK is rainfall.

"Meanwhile British supermarkets are selling thousands of tonnes of avocados from Chile, where villagers claim water is being diverted from illegal pipes to irrigate their crops, causing wells to dry up. It takes 74 gallons of water to produce one pound of avocados. cehumboldt.ucanr.edu/?blogtag=avocado&blogasset=23438.

"By eating local, seasonal produce wherever possible, following the full story of the foods you eat, you can have peace of mind about water use and also reduce carbon emissions," she added.

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Spring is here and it's time to discover what's new in Cowbridge

JRC Jewellery offer quality items and a comprehensive repair service.

YOUR LOCAL FAMILY JEWELLERS

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COWBRIDGE'S USP has always been that it is a quintessential market town, where very little changes – but that is not the case at the moment.

Its population is on the rise, due to two building projects, one in the town and another just outside.

Visitors coming to Cowbridge from the west can't fail to notice Clare Garden Village - around 500 homes and a school are on the way - while in the town, just off Westgate, Churchill Retirement Living are building De Clare Lodge, a development of 37 homes.

Clare seems to be a popular name with developers.

There are also plans for the historic parts of the town, where the old cattle sheds that were part of the livestock market will be removed, putting Cowbridge's ancient town walls on show again, and freeing up an area to improve car parking.

Something else that happened over the last year was that the town was honoured in the 'Great British High Street' awards - receiving the accolade of 'Rising Star' in Wales. With more ideas and plans in the pipeline, the town's chamber of trade is setting its sites on the top award in the near future.

However, the overall look and feel of Cowbridge - that market town profile - remains unchanged. The town counts itself fortunate to be a place where new, independent retailers want to do business, and fresh faces have arrived in the last 12 months - always a good sign.

Cowbridge still boasts a wide range of shops where you can browse to your heart's content, and it still has plenty of places - cafes, pubs, restaurants and bars - where you can take a break or enjoy a great meal.

One valuable piece of advice in Cowbridge is to investigate any alleyway or side road you come across - you never know what might be just around the corner.

A good case in point is in Verity's Court, which has two businesses who complement each other very well.

Elly Worgan runs the Buttercup Cwtch on the ground floor, while Jenny Lambert is very much the artist in residence on the first floor.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 26

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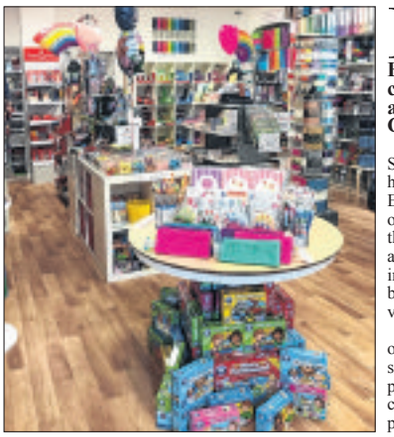
Everything you could want for Easter at The Pencil Case!



IF you are looking for chocolate-free Easter gifts for children, pop along to The Pencil Case on Eastgate.

Owner Sally Stephenson told us: "We have a fabulous range of Easter gifts for children of all ages. Popular themes feature right across our range, including unicorns, dinosaurs, ballerinas, space and vehicles.

"Older children love our brightly coloured stationery - pens and pencils, secret diaries, colouring pens and pencils and the very popular range of Top Model colouring and sticker books.

"For younger children, we have a wide range of educational Orchard Toys games and jigsaws, cute rucksacks and soft toys."

There are two special offers running at The Pencil Case this Easter – receive a free Easter egg when you buy any 10 collectible Iwako erasers - a novel alternative to chocolate eggs, it is a fun way for children to store their eraser collection and will last much longer!

Alternatively, spend £15 or more on anything from the Top Model range and receive a free children's watch!

Both offers available while stocks last.

The Pencil Case also stocks contemporary greetings cards in Welsh and English and a wide range of helium balloons. Open from 9am to 5pm, Monday to Saturday (closed on Good Friday).

Get a fresh new look this year at Sylvia Williams

Gionni designer sunglasses are available from Sylvia Williams.

THE Cowbridge pharmacists, Sylvia Williams, has added two new strings to its bow recently, with a top designer sunglass stylist, and a range of Gionni handbags.

The tres stylish 'Gionni' range of designer sunglasses offers both quality and style, for men and women.

With a string continental look, the Gionni range starts at £18, and are well worth a look with summer not so far away.

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The pencil case COWBRIDGE

Easter/Pasg

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ThePencilCaseCowbridge

See more on the Cowbrige feature on pages 26 and 27.

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Spring into Cowbridge this Easter!

Jean Tait at La Mercerie.

Jenny Lambert at work at her studio.

Elly Worgan at Cwtch.

Barking Mad has doggie Easter eggs.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 25

The Buttercup Cwtch's speciality is cards, and Elly stocks a huge variety, in both English and Welsh languages, and it's hard to imagine any shopper going away without the perfect card for any occasion. She does a four-for-£10 offer which has proved very popular.

The shop also carries a wide range of crafts, gifts and jewellery, and Elly is proud to say that around 80 per cent of these goods are made in Wales. Carrie Elspeth Jewellery is based in Llandow now, but started off just around the corner in Cowbridge, while she has other suppliers from Porthcawl, Sully and all over south Wales.

The Buttercup Cwtch will be hosting the Cowbridge Chamber of Trade's Easter Egg Hunt, which will take place from April 12 to April 24

Upstairs you will find artist Jenny Lambert, who specialises in bright, colourful and quirky Welsh landscapes - very often local - where she likes to play around with perspective.

She enjoyed art at school, taking her A-Levels, but then didn't paint for about 15 years. She said: "My dad suggested I start again and I found my own style. I went professional just over a year ago."

She has displayed her work previously in Barry and in Ogmore-by-Sea (in Cobbles Kitchen and Deli) but now Cowbridge has a permanent home for her work.

Jenny takes commissions and also has her paintings available on colourful coasters, postcards, mugs and tea towels, which are in stock and on sale alongside her original art work and prints.

Alfred Hitchcock used to make a cameo appearance in his films, and Jenny does her own version, as hidden in every painting is her black labrador, Tinker. Be careful if you start looking for him in every painting, as you could be there for some time!

If you find your way back onto the High Street, just along the way is Tallia, a fashion shop run by Susan Jones.

Susan told The GEM: "I've been open 18 months now, and it has been nice getting to know my customers and finding out what they like.

"I am excited about this season as I have some new brands which I know customers old and new will love.

"This season is full of vibrant colours and floral patterns for smart and casual wear. There is a look for every occasion."

Across the road you will find JRC Jewellery, which is run by a father-and-daughter team, Jonathan Mahoney and Rowena.

They have been in business in Cowbridge for six years now, and have an established reputation as a company that makes bespoke jewellery, offers a full repair service, does ring alterations, fixes chains, repairs watches and restrings beaded necklaces - all done by experts.

Jonathan and Rowena do, of course, sell fine jewellery too, and you can choose from a wide range, including diamond pieces and Welsh Clogau Gold.

As you move up the High Street, it changes into Eastgate, and there you will find Aimee Richardson, who opened 'Barking Mad' just nine months ago.

As the name suggests, Aimee's aim is to help owners get exactly what they want for their pet dog.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 27

Spring Cowbridge Feature

Plenty on offer in Cowbridge

Susan Jones at Tallia is excited about this season's new styles.

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 26

She has enjoyed getting to know her customers and, because she is active on Facebook and Instagram, she is able to respond quickly when suggestions are made about things she should look to keep in stock.

Later this month, on Easter Saturday (April 20), she is organising a doggie fancy dress competition.

She said:"To enter, just bring your pet to the shop on the day between 10am and 4pm, and I will take a photo. Later in the day, the judges will decide on the best dressed dog!"

At La Mercerie, in The Old Mason's Yard, Jean Tait offers a haven for knitting enthusiasts. She has a huge range of yarns, and the shop hosts two groups of enthusiasts who come together to refine their technique and compare notes - not forgetting the social side.

The groups meet on a Wednesday, 1pm to 3pm and 6pm to 8pm. Jean says that the evening group has a younger profile, with members finding knitting a good way to wind down after a busy day.

Crochet is getting more popular at the moment, because there are so many elaborate designs to choose.

Jean said: "One member is working on a farmyard blanket where parts of it are 3-D, with animal heads sticking out.

"I've suggested that it is looking so good that it could be a wall hanging instead."

In a way, La Mercerie illustrates the attraction of the town. Yes, Cowbridge has supermarkets, pharmacies, coffee shops, designer boutiques, artists, gift shops and so much else, but it also has enterprises with strong roots in their community - very much part of the social fabric of the town.

Cowbridge is very much a 'Rising Star' - but it remains a real market town.

A welcome to Cowbridge from the town mayor

I EXTEND a warm welcome, Croeso Cynnes, to all visitors to our special town, Cowbridge.

I hope that you enjoy your visit and spend some quality time exploring the range of interesting places and things to do here in Cowbridge.

As a market town in the heart of the rural vale of Glamorgan we have so much to offer.

From the numerous independent coffee shops, hotels, restaurants and pubs, to the major chain coffee outlets you are ensured a warm and friendly welcome in a relaxed atmosphere.

For shoppers, from antiques and memorabilia to top end designer wear, you can find it all here.

As you wander along our 'Rising Star' award-winning High Street, take time to look behind the scenes where you will find old cobbled alleyways and courtyards with interesting and different shops.

The old town walls can still be seen, and it is worth visiting the award-winning Physic Gardens and the Old Hall Gardens which offer a tranquil and interesting environment.

The start of the Iolo Morganwg trail can be found in the Old Hall Gardens accessed through an arch off the High Street by the Old Hall.

Whatever your interest, whether it be sporting, leisure, shopping or culture, I am sure that Cowbridge will have something to offer. From our annual Cowbridge Music Festival, our Food and Drink Festival later next month, our May Day events, the museum in the original prison cells at the Town Hall, our wide range of sporting facilities and events, there will be something for everyone.

As the Mayor of the town, I am proud of what Cowbridge has to offer and I hope that your visit will be a pleasant and happy experience.

Terry L Williams
Mayor of Cowbridge (Ancient Borough) with Llanblethian

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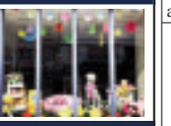
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Has the GEM been biased over Brexit?

WE noted and appreciated Mr Cairns' thanks regarding the politeness and respectful behaviour of the audience at his public meeting at the Duke of Wellington pub last week (GEM letters, April 4).

However we are disappointed that he continues to ignore those of us who avidly wish to remain in the EU, particularly as we make up the majority of the electorate in the Vale - more than half in fact, according to the 2016 referendum result.

It is clear from his letter that Mr Cairns is afraid of the pro-Brexit lobby and is thus voting accordingly (or not at all). Mr Cairns should represent ALL of his constituents, not just those who voted to leave.

He would be well advised not to ignore his remain-supporting constituents - over 8,000 people in the Vale (11 per cent of the electorate) have already signed the six million signature petition to revoke Article 50 and remain in the EU. Mr Cairns will no doubt be aware of this and should take serious note that this figure represents many thousands more votes than his current majority (2,190).

Vale of Glamorgan for Europe is a polite voice for remain, but we are also a very powerful voice, an active part of a large and influential network across both Wales and the UK. It is abundantly clear, as we have demonstrated numerous times in our surveys across the Vale, that more and more people now want Brexit to just go away, be stopped and not be constantly discussed in the media all the time. The best way for this to happen is for the whole process to be halted and for the UK to remain in the EU.

As Jacob Rees-Mogg helpfully pointed out only last Friday morning, the UK is a powerful force in Europe and clearly should remain so. The best deal for Wales (and the UK as a whole) is not May's deal or a Corbyn-May deal, but the one we already have with the EU. Mr Cairns would do well to remember that and should be in no doubt that his voting record on Brexit thus far has already greatly endangered his chances of re-election in the Vale.

We also note that although The GEM has claimed to be non-partisan and as a result refused to publish articles sent to the paper regarding the activities of Vale for Europe, they have been perfectly happy to publish Mr Cairns' pro-Brexit views both in his letter and the corresponding article on page 4 of last week's edition without once mentioning the very active pro-remain side of the Vale.

This is not in any way non-partisan and shows The GEM does not actually respect the neutral editorial stance the paper claims to have. We sincerely hope that in the interest of full disclosure, that this week you will publish our letter in full as an alternative view to those of Mr Cairns. It is also incumbent on our local newspaper to inform its readers that a very large, active and respected pro-remain group exists in the Vale.

On behalf of Vale of Glamorgan for Europe

GEM response:

The GEM totally rejects the two claims in this letter. The very short account of the meeting in Cowbridge simply recorded that it took place, and that the atmosphere had been civilised, and that Mr Cairns repeated his position that he had voted remain but accepted the decision to leave.

In terms of Brexit coverage in general, The GEM took the view some time ago that readers were in danger of being swamped by Brexit rhetoric. Almost every daily national newspaper devotes between three and six pages a day to the subject, so the idea that The GEM could offer some sort of weekly round-up, for instance, was never a practical proposition.

Remember also that The GEM is a small, local newspaper, and a comprehensive coverage of Brexit requires a political correspondent, a business correspondent, an economics correspondent, and a foreign correspondent.

Why does a newspaper need all those experts? Simply to put in context the various claims made by both sides that have contributed to a heated, potentially overwhelming and frequently toxic debate.

Has The GEM handled this correctly? To be frank, we are not sure. We would welcome the views of ordinary readers on this matter.

The GEM also asked Alun Cairns MP to respond.

He said: "I fully appreciate the strong feeling on both sides of the Brexit debate and I have taken into consideration the wide-ranging concerns at my public meetings on Brexit, which I have held across the Vale of Glamorgan. I am also holding another such meeting on Saturday in Barry.

"The local authority area, which includes Penarth, voted to Remain by 50.73 per cent. The House of Commons Library's independent research shows that the Vale of Glamorgan Parliamentary constituency (which does not include Penarth) voted to Leave by 52.6 per cent. My personal vote at the 2016 Referendum was to Remain but I am committed to honouring the outcome of the referendum."

Green tea and Tai Chi at Ystradowen WI

THE April meeting began with a talk, demonstration and participation on the martial art Tai Chi.

The speaker was Andy Thompson, a martial arts expert who began by explaining its origin.

He proceeded to show us some gentle moves, followed by an amazing demonstration of his skills.

We were then given the opportunity to try some very basic moves under his strict guidance. Finally, we were treated to green tea.

Although quite a diverse topic for a WI meeting, it was a welcome and enjoyable change.

Next month's annual and resolutions meeting will be followed by a fish and chip supper and the monthly raffle was won by Audrey Cocco.

SS

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Does the Vale get its fair share of funding for education?

A Penarth primary school head teacher has said he is concerned about how he can deliver Wales' new curriculum because of the squeeze in funding from Welsh Government.

Mr Steve Rees of Evenlode Primary School said things had got more difficult over the last four or five years, that he'd lost 11 staff in three years and that he was concerned as to whether the Vale was getting its fair share of funding. The school hires out its hall to make money and Mr Rees has sometimes cleaned the toilets and hoovered floors to prepare facilities for users.

The Leader of the Vale Council, Cllr John Thomas said the Vale had some of the best schools and teaching staff in Wales but their work was being undermined by a "flawed funding system".

He said: "The Welsh Government claims that the Vale funds its schools at a lower level than any other local authority in Wales. There is a failure to acknowledge that we receive the lowest level of funding for education from Welsh Government in the first instance, as a result of a flawed formula designed by Welsh Government.

While it may have once been effective, this formula has not been reviewed for 18 years and relies on data gathered in the 1991 census.

"It simply beggars belief that the funding of possibly the most important area of our work is determined by data that is almost 30 years old. Both Cllr Penrose, my cabinet member for learning and culture, and myself have raised concerns about this directly with Welsh Government on numerous occasions.

"The responses I have received have given me absolutely no confidence in the methodology used to distribute education funding across Wales. Perhaps more worryingly, they have also shown a complete unwillingness to reconsider their approach or to address any of the clear flaws that have been raised, preferring instead to bat this issue back to local authorities to resolve."

A Welsh Government spokesperson said: "School funding is the responsibility of local authorities and we note that the Vale of Glamorgan spends the least per pupil in the whole of Wales.

"Every local authority must have a school budget forum – as set out in law – where schools have the opportunity to influence the funding decisions their authorities make. Local authorities must also consult their schools budget forums and all schools in their area when setting a funding formula.

"We recognise that to continue to raise standards, our schools and teachers need additional support. That is why we recently announced the single biggest investment for teachers since devolution – a £24m package of professional learning to support the new curriculum, giving schools the time and resources they need."

The spokesman added: "It is important to note that Welsh Government has presented local authorities, including the Vale of Glamorgan, with proposals to update the 1991 census related element of the current funding formula for local government, however this proposal was not pursued."

Choirs in harmony at spring concert

LLANTRISANT Male Voice Choir and Tabernacle Choir Bridgend were delighted with the very positive comments they received from members of the audience at the end of their joint Spring Concert on April 5 at Tabernacle, Bridgend.

The concert was dedicated to the memory of Ron Norey, the former Tabernacle Choir chairman, who died recently. We were pleased that his widow Joan was able to attend.

This was a very busy evening for Matthew Nash because he is the conductor of both choirs. He was ably supported by accompanist Ryan Wood on the piano.

The programme was certainly made more interesting for everyone by the informative introductions to each section given by Robin Samuel for Tabernacle and chairman Ted Tidman for Llantrisant.

Tabernacle's first half included Ivor Novello's 'We'll Gather Lilacs'; also Bach and Handel with 'Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring' and 'Zadok the Priest'. The Welsh song 'Cenin Aur' by M Thomas was also well received.

Llantrisant delighted with old favourites such as 'Llef' and Macuff's arrangement of 'Angels' and the first half finished with Matthew's arrangement of 'Can't Take My Eyes Off of You'.

In the second half, Llantrisant opened with 'Gwahoddiad' and closed with 'American Trilogy' arranged by Aldwyn Humphreys. Between these songs they performed a group of modern songs arranged by Mathew; 'Perfect', 'Skyfall' and 'Stay' brought their own variety, and the choir certainly rose to the challenge they presented. Their performance showed an attention to detail, colourful expression and good discipline.

Tabernacle started the second half with a medley from *My Fair Lady*; Welsh songs followed, namely 'Hafan Gobaith' and 'O Fab y Dyn'; the choir was pleased by the warm and enthusiastic reception they received from the audience.

Finally both choirs combined to sing with great feeling the Welsh hymn 'Tydi a Roddaist'. It was a rousing and fitting end to a very enjoyable musical evening.

MR

For all the latest news - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Local transport could get a green energy boost

LOCAL people are being asked to respond to a consultation on transport issues in Cornelly, Nottage, Rest Bay, Porthcawl, Newton, Bryntirion, Laleston and Merthyr Mawr.

The consultation is about a potential new electric vehicle community transport service that would be powered by renewable energy and serve rural areas in Bridgend.

With the support of Bridgend Reach, the environmental charity Sustainable Wales has contracted a feasibility study for electric vehicle community transport provision to address some rural issues.

An event will be held at Porthcawl YMCA at 7pm on Thursday, April 18, (The Y Centre, John Street, Porthcawl, CF36 3AP)

At the event, preliminary findings of the study will be shared, and everyone attending will be invited to share their views on the outline proposal, as well as to help identify any further transport issues. The event will be facilitated by Gower Power Co-op CIC.

Margaret Minhinnick of Sustainable Wales said: "In advance of the event, please let us know about any transport issues you, or the people you support, are experiencing, on *https://www.surveymonkey.co.uk/r/N52Z982*"

MM

Holy Week at St Illtyd's, Bridgend

PREPARATIONS are well underway for Holy Week at St Illtyd's Church in Newcastle, Bridgend.

From Monday, April 15 there is a mass each day at 7pm, including Maundy Thursday, as well as the regular 9.30am mass on Wednesday.

On Good Friday (April 19), there is the Veneration of The Cross at 2.15pm and on the following day, Holy Saturday there is a service of Compline at 7pm.

Mass on Easter Sunday is, as usual, at 10.30am.

Parish priest Father David Lloyd added: "And for those feeling energetic, there is a churchyard clean-up starting at 9.30am on Holy Saturday, so regular churchgoer or not, do come along for some not too arduous work; a friendly chat, some refreshments, and to play your part in the upkeep of Bridgend's most historic churches."

For further information, call Fr David on 01656 655999, or search for *@saintilltydbridgend* on Facebook.

DL

Season end for the Bridgend Quiz League

THE Bridgend Quiz League's recent Cup and Plate results are as follows:

Cup Final: Penybont AFC Nomads 54, Tondu Railway Club 47.

Plate Final: Mackworth Arms 58, TyRisha Arms 41.

Season's Final tables:

Division One: Penybont AFC Nomads 28 points; Tondu Railway Club 26; Crown Maesteg 23; TyRisha Arms Royals 19; Five Bells A 11; Mackworth Arms 11; Laleston Inn A 8

Division Two: Chatterton Arms Shunters 35; Six Bells Clangers 28; Pheasant Gamekeepers 28; Laleston Inn B 21; Five Bells B 17; Prince of Wales Rebels 17; Cabo Roche 16; Oddfellows Arms 5.

Here are this week's teasers (answers below):

What is the activity 'natation' better known as?

The characters Fred Jones, Daphne Blake, Velma Dinkley and Norville Rogers appear in which children's TV show?

Which Welshman scored the last international try at the old National Stadium in Cardiff?

Steve Kingscott

ANSWERS: Swimming. Scooby Doo. Rob Howley.

Congratulations! Richard and Judith celebrate their 60th wedding anniversary

A Dinas Powys couple who met at the Marina Ballroom at Penarth Pier in the 1950s have just celebrated their 60th wedding anniversary.

Richard and Judith have lived happily in Dinas Powys for the last 49 years.

Richard and Judith Fudge were married at the registry office, Park Place, Cardiff, on April 4, 1959.

Richard and Judith Fudge were both living in Cardiff at the time and met at the ballroom in March 1958.

Richard was home on leave from national service.

Judith explained that in the 1950s people from Cardiff used to travel by train to Penarth Train Station and walk down to the pier for an evening of dancing. At midnight buses were laid on to take the dancers back home to various areas of Cardiff.

The couple were married at the registry office in Park Place, Cardiff, on April 4, 1959. They first lived in Canton, then in Caerphilly, but have now lived happily in Dinas Powys for 49 years.

Richard (82) worked as a self-employed carpenter and Judith (78) worked part-time driving an ambulance for Cardiff City Council, taking elderly and infirm people to appointments.

The couple have two children and seven grandchildren.

On the day of their 60th anniversary, they enjoyed a family celebration at La Marina in Penarth.

Then on Sunday, April 7, 53 family and friends gathered for a party at the Copthorne Hotel.

Cowbridge car boot bonanza on Sunday!

COWBRIDGE Rotary car boot sales get underway again this weekend, starting on Sunday, April 14 in the Cowbridge Town Hall car park at 8.30am.

The Rotary car boot sale has become a popular fixture in the Cowbridge social calendar, hugely successful in supporting local, national and international Rotary charities, among them the president's nominated charities Y Bont – enabling children with a disability to fulfil their potential; Samaritans, and Crisis, together with many other good causes.

It costs just £6 per car/pitch and sellers are advised to arrive around 7am to secure their spot.

Rotarians will be on hand at the car park entrance to help with parking arrangements.

Cowbridge Rotary car boot sales are held on the second Sunday of every month (April – August) and signposted in and around the town and outskirts in the week leading up to the event. Dates for your diary are:

Sunday April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14 and August 11 (Sunday, September 8, is held as a reserve date in the event of very bad weather).

The boot sales are always popular, with buyers arriving early from 8.30am and the session usually wrapping up around midday. So don't miss out. We are looking forward to seeing you all at the events again this year.

Further enquiries can be directed through the club's website at *cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk.*

'Get your blood pressure tested in Cowbridge'

COWBRIDGE Rotary will be supporting a joint venture with the Stroke Association on Saturday, April 13, at the Cowbridge Town Hall (Lesser Hall) between 10am and 1pm to tackle and raise awareness of the ever-increasing incidence of stroke amongst our population.

Cowbridge Rotary has supported this event for more than 20 years, and welcomes anyone to call into the Lesser Hall on Saturday to have their blood pressure taken by a volunteer health professional.

The service is completely confidential and medical professionals will take blood pressure and provide appropriate advice as necessary.

Rotarians will be on hand at the Town Hall to direct visitors to the Lesser Hall and provide tea and biscuits.

Further enquiries can be directed through the clubs website at: www.cowbridgerotary.club or via email at: *cowbridge.rotary@yahoo.co.uk.*

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Cabin. 77' Driveway.
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St Johns View, St Athan
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3 Bedrooms
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3 Bedrooms
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Driveway. Garage
£179,950 D61

Monmouth Way, Llantwit Major
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£239,950 D65

Brecon Street, Llantwit Major
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Kitchen/Diner
Driveway. Garage.
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Driveway. Garage
Quiet Location
£329,950 B84

Eagleswell Road, Llantwit Major
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Llanmaes Road, Llantwit Major
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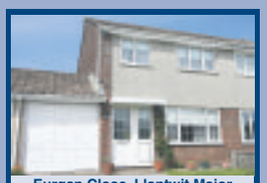

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£20,000 Extras
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Cardiff Airport manager is Police's first-ever 'Special Superintendent'

SOUTH Wales Police has appointed its first 'Special Superintendent' – Jason Coleman, who works at Cardiff Airport.

By day Jason, from Llanharan, is Head of Quality Safety Health and Environment at the airport. A self-confessed proud Welshman, Jason has been working as acting Special Sergeant based at Pontypridd Police Station in charge of the deployment of 26 Special Constables to ensure secure policing at events, walking the beat and on frontline operations.

Detective Superintendent Jason Davies said: "Jason's strategic management of quality and safety are highly desired and transferrable skills. He started with us in December 2017 as a Special Constable and this swift progression through the Special ranks is a reflection on his dedication and commitment.

"The Special Superintendent will have strategic responsibility to deliver on priorities and ensure meaningful outcomes at a tactical level."

The police service has a national Employer Supported Policing Scheme, which is a partnership benefitting employers, their staff and the police service by releasing Special Constables and Police Support Volunteers.

Deb Barber, CEO of Cardiff Airport, said: "I would like to personally congratulate Jason on his promotion to Special Superintendent. Jason has been in a position of senior management at Cardiff Airport for many years, during which time he has made a significant contribution to the success of the airport.

"We are strong supporters of this initiative at Cardiff Airport, and on behalf of the whole airport team I would like to wish Jason every success in his new role."

Special Superintendent Jason Coleman commented: "I am honoured to be appointed as the first Special Superintendent for South Wales Police. I thrive on this dual working life and feel I am getting the best of both worlds, so to speak, and I get to give something back to the community, particularly in supporting young people.

"I have a child with learning difficulties who has been diagnosed as autistic, so just one of the opportunities afforded to me through this role is to give back to the community by supporting campaigns such as the Keep Safe Cymru Card Scheme. The scheme is a police initiative that supports vulnerable people with communication needs."

National Garden Scheme begins a new year

SLADE Garden in Southerndown will be open on Saturday and Sunday, April 27 and 28, from 12pm until 6pm, as part of the National Garden Scheme (NGS) – raising money for charities.

The garden tumbles down a valley surrounded by woodland, full of spring bulbs and fritillaries.

There are formal areas with a rose and clematis pergola and herbaceous borders. Tea and cake will be available and plants for sale. Entrance is £5 and children are admitted free. It is the perfect garden to visit as a family.

For more information visit *www.ngs.org.uk/find-a-garden/garden/4563/*. All of the Glamorgan garden openings are on our Instagram account, *ngsglamorgan.*

9x4

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Planning (Listed Buildings and Conservation Areas) Act, 1990
Town and Country Planning (Development Management Procedure) (Wales) Order 2012
Listed Building Consent / Caniatâd Adeilad Rhestredig

Application No:/Rhif y cais:	2019/00352/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig:	Erection of new single storey rear garden room extension. Conversion of former stable and store to provide self-contained granny annexe (including remodelling first floor bathroom). Internal alterations to kitchen and dining room including removal of part of wall between. Provision of new garden shed
Location:/Lleoliad:	The Old Vicarage, Wick Road, St. Brides Major
Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II
Application No:/Rhif y cais:	2019/00354/LBC
Proposal:/Cynnig:	A single-storey modern extension to the annex building & enlarging an opening in the existing external wall to create an open plan area. Internal works include existing accessible WC into storage & construction of an accessible WC within a new internal lobby between the main library hall & annex building
Location:/Lleoliad:	Penarth Library, Stanwell Road, Penarth
Listed Building:/Adeilad Rhestredig	Grade II

Details may be inspected for 21 days at the address given below, or via http://vogonline.planningregister.co.uk

Dated / Dyddiedig: 11 April, 2019

V. L. RobinsonOperational Manager, Regeneration and Planning, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Dock Office, Barry. CF63 4RT

Gall manylion eu harchwilio am 21 diwrnod yn y cyfeiriad a roddir isod, neu drwy http://vogonline.planning-register.co.uk/

Barry artist forges partnership between Welsh and Chinese artists

ON April 6, Vale AM Jane Hutt attended 'Paper Exchange', the first part of an international artistic partnership at BayArt Gallery in Cardiff, with First Minister Mark Drakeford.

Barry artist Mary Husted has forged a unique partnership between Welsh and Chinese artists and the Art Central Gallery in Barry will host her latest exhibition; 'Open Books – Chinese Folding Books and Works on Paper'.

Ms Hutt said: "The pioneering art of Mary Husted is featured across the world but she has also forged this partnership with Chinese artists built on a cultural exchange using paper and Chinese calligraphy. Art Central Gallery will be displaying this over the next few weeks."

WI members learn warning signs of sepsis

ON March 18, Cadoxton Barry WI welcomed Terence Canning, who gave a very personal and important message to the members on an important but underestimated condition which affects more than 250,000 people every year – sepsis.

Tea and coffee followed with the raffles won by Avril French and Marilyn Dowling.

Our day out on March 21 was a trip to Trago Mills, followed by a very pleasant lunch at Table Table in Merthyr Tydfil.

Our next meeting is on Monday, April 15, at 7pm at Victoria Park Community Centre and new members are always welcome! If you are interested, contact the president Christina Whitchurch on 01446 404891.

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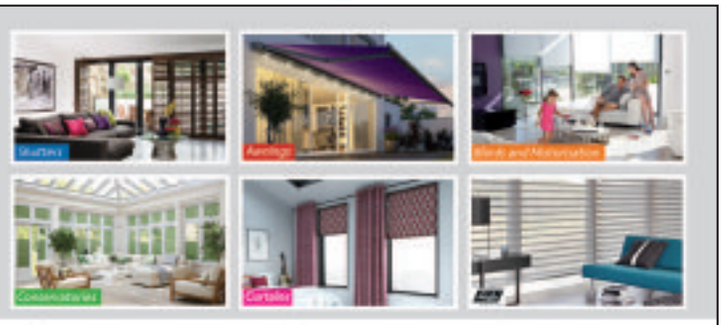

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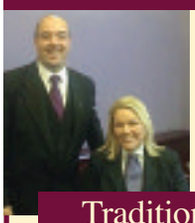

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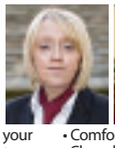

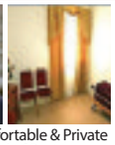

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Family Notices

CARSLEY
Brenda

After a long battle with Alzheimer's, Brenda peacefully passed away at Springbank Nursing Home on 3rd April 2019, aged 84 years. Devoted wife of 64 years to Donald, loving mother to Gaynor.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at All Saints Church, Barry, on Wednesday, 17th April at 1pm, followed by an interment at Barry Cemetery.

Family flowers only. Donations may be made in memory of Brenda in favour of The Alzheimer's Society at the service.

JOHN
Adah (*née* Mills)

Peacefully passed away with her family around her on 28th March 2019, aged 87 years. Beloved wife of the late Bill (Prosser); loving mother to Mark, Diane and Kathryn; devoted gran to Elliot, Sophie, Jake, Evan, Will and Luke. Great-grandmother to Siena.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Mount Pleasant Baptist Church, Cadoxton, Barry on Thursday, 18th April at 2.45pm, followed by a committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations can be made in memory of Adah in favour of Marie Curie Cancer Care at the service.

JONES
Ian Leonard

The family wish to announce the sad passing of Ian on 30th March at the University Hospital of Wales. Loving dad of Adam, Aaron and Abi. Grandad of Chloe and Hollie. Cherished son of Janice and stepdad Tim, loving brother of Stephen, Matthew, Aimee and uncle to all his nephews.

Ian will be sadly missed.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare until the service at the Chapel of Rest on Wednesday, 17th April at 4pm, followed by committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Family flowers only. Donations lieu, if so desired for WCADA (Welsh Centre of Action on Dependency and Addiction Ltd).

STURGESS
James William (Jim)

After a short illness on 2nd April at the Princess of Wales Hospital Bridgend, Jim of Ty Groes Farm, Bonvilston. Beloved husband, father, grandfather and great grandfather.

Resting at J. Pidgeon & Son, 539 Cowbridge Road East, Victoria Park, Cardiff (02920 226604) until the funeral service on Thursday, 18th April at 1pm at Cardiff & Glamorgan Memorial Park and Crematorium, Barry, CF62 9PX.

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu may be made to the Alzheimers Society, Oldwell Court, Ty Gwyn Road, Penylan, Cardiff, CF23 5DA.

HEMMING
Michael J.E.

Mike's funeral will be held on Tuesday, 16th April at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry, CF62 9PX at 1pm.

Flowers to go to Thomas Bros, Greengate, Ewenny Road, St Brides Major, CF32 0SB.

Go to The GEM for the latest stories and breaking news... www.glamorgan-gem.co.uk

WHITE
Philip James "PHIL"

Peacefully on 1st April at the University Hospital Of Wales, Cardiff, Phil sadly passed away. He will be well known of Barry and remembered for his love of motorcycles.

Cherished son of Mo and the late Tony, much loved brother of Paul, Michael, Deborah and Cath. Special brother in law of Jill, Toni, Rob and the late Steve. A respected and loved uncle who will be greatly missed together by everyone who knew him.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ The Vale Funeral Service, Court Road, Barry until his service at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry on Thursday 18th April at 11am.

Family floral tributes only – donations if desired may be made at the service to support Kidney Research in memory of Phil.

Further enquiries please telephone 01446 407962.

DELANEY
Patricia (Pat)

Sadly past away on 25th March 2019 at Llandough Hospital, Penarth, formerly of Lee Road, Barry. Devoted wife of the late Reg Delaney, mother of Carol, grandmother of Hayley and Lee. Great grandmother of seven. Sister of Betty and the late Cyril.

Pat will be sadly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting in the care of Lyndsay Ellis @ Vale Funeral Service, 181 Court Road, Barry until her funeral service at the Coastlands Church, Tennyson Road, Colcot, Barry on Tuesday, 16th April 2019 at 11am, followed by interment at Barry Cemetery at 12 noon (family only).

Family flowers only. Donations in lieu of flowers to the Alzheimer's Society.

Traditional funeral attire please.

Funeral arrangements entrusted to Anthony D.H. Thomas.

BRYAN
Gerona (Rona)

Peacefully on 5th April 2019, aged 92 years. Devoted wife of the late Reg, loving mother to Dennis and Bobby, mother-in-law to Denise, grandmother of Thomas.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at St Helen's RC Church, Barry on Tuesday, 16th April at 9.45am, followed by a committal at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium.

Family flowers only. Donations may be made in memory of Rona directly to The Alzheimer's Society, 43-44 Crutched Friars, London, EC3N 2AE.

MORGAN
Edna Elizabeth

Peacefully at Danygraig Care Home, Porthcawl on Saturday, 30th March 2019, Edna formerly of St. Illtyd's Road, Bridgend. Devoted wife of the late Teifi. Much loved mum of Kevin. Loved and respected mother-in-law of Susan and a loving and proud nanny of Ellen.

Friends please meet for service in Rosemount Funeral Home on Friday, 12th April 2019 at 10am, followed by interment in Bridgend Cemetery.

Family flowers only by request but donations will be gratefully received for Alzheimer's Research UK and may be sent direct to 3 Riverside, Granta Park, Cambridge, CB21 6AD.

All enquiries to Rosemount Funeral Home, 19 Coychurch Road, Bridgend, CF31 3AP. Tel - 01656 653156.

SCOBIE
Margaret Ann

Peacefully at the Princess of Wales Hospital, Margaret (Marg) passed away on 29th March 2019, aged 83 years. Beloved wife of Mike; cherished mother to Sue & Ian and Sean; and adored nan of Jason & Amy, Gemma & Mark and Jamie.

She will be greatly missed by all her loving family and friends.

Resting at W.A. Brown Funeralcare, Llantwit Major until the service at 1.15pm on Tuesday, 16th April at Coychurch Crematorium, Bridgend CF35 6AB.

Family flowers only. Donations in Margaret's memory welcomed for Ward 8 at Princess of Wales Hospital, Coity Road, Bridgend CF31 1RQ. Please make cheques payable to 'CTMU Health Board' with 'Ward 8' and 'Margaret Scobie' on the reverse.

HEPPENSTALL
Gary Robert

Passed away after a long illness on 4th April 2019, aged 72 years.

Gary will be sadly missed by all his family and friends.

Resting at A.G. Adams Funeralcare, until the service at Cardiff and Glamorgan Crematorium on Wednesday, 17th April at 10am. Flowers may be sent directly to the funeral home.

HILL
John Robert

Suddenly, after a long illness, John Robert Hill, passed away on 3rd April. Beloved husband to Marilyn, father of Gayle, Julie, Leila, Joanna, Katie and the late Tracey. Grandfather and great-grandfather.

Resting at Robert D. Johnson Funeral Directors, 29 Holton Road, Barry. Funeral service to take place at 1pm on Wednesday, 17th April at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Port Road, Barry.

No flowers at the request of the family. Donations will be greatly received to Ward West 6 of Llandough Hospital.

BASTICK
Anthony William

Sadly passed away on 1st April 2019, aged 79 years. Dearly loved father of Julie and Jacqui, devoted grampy of Sion, Kieran, Lili and Ffion.

He will be sadly missed by many.

Resting at the Private Funeral Home of W. James & Sons, Fonmon. Funeral Tuesday, 23rd April, service 11am at St Peter's Church, Rhoose, followed by cremation 12 noon at Cardiff & Glamorgan Crematorium, Barry.

Donations if desired to the Autistic Society c/o the funeral director.

In Memory

'LOLA'

Our beautiful and well known Standard Poodle went to sleep very gently on Monday, 8th April 2019

Alan & Loena Sheppard.

Acknowledgements

BIRNER
Captain Alfred-Alfons

Luschie, Abi, Andrea and the family wish to thank everyone for the cards, donations and the kind heartfelt messages following the passing of Alfred, an amazing husband to the late Angela, a wonderful father and a well-respected sea captain. We would also like to thank those who attended the funeral to celebrate Alf's life and his friends from across the world for their touching messages of condolence.

We would also like to thank the district nurses and the Marie Curie team for their kindness at such a difficult time.

In addition, we are so grateful to Father Kevin Lake and Rebecca and her team at A.G. Adams Funeralcare for their care, consideration and dedication to ensure the service was a true celebration of Alf's life.

Thank you.

FOGG
Les

Les's family wish to express their sincere thanks to all relatives, friends and neighbours for the lovely cards and messages of sympathy they have received.

Thanks to the Rev John James for conducting the service, and to the family and friends who attended.

Appreciation to all the staff at Holme Towers for their compassion and kindness.

In Memory

BIRTHDAY MEMORIES

BLOSS
Vera Jean

15th April

A wonderful wife and mother, who I miss so very much.

Peter

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Whitewash win for Bridgend Athletic RFCsecond XV

BRIDGEND Athletic RFC second XV emulated their first XV with a bonus point home win on the adjacent field against Rhiwbina seconds, winning 30-0.

They also made it a pointless visit to Newbridge Fields for the two Cardiff sides by going slightly better than the first XV with five tries in a 30-0 win.

It moved the Athletic to fourth place in the Conference above fifth placed Rhiwbina, with six wins in 10 starts; and avenged an earlier last minute 5-3 defeat by the Squirrels.

Try scorers for the Athletic were full back Ryan Pickford (two), scrum half Josh Seldon, flanker Aled Pilliner and hooker Matt Greenman one apiece. Outside half Scott Jones weighed in with a penalty and conversion.

AB

Barrivale Bridge Club news

THE latest results at Barrivale Bridge Club are as follows:

First, Mike Best and Mike Close 64.29 per cent; second, Peter Millar and Tim Barsby 61.90; third, Mark Roderick and Noelle Bond 56.67.

The handicap winners were Sue Jones and RozzThomas.

New members at the club are always welcomed and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join us, call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380 or 01446 733425 or 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

Players inexperienced or new to bridge playing, may attend the following sessions: Friday 10am at the Pioneer Hall for lessons and assisted play and Thursday afternoons for assisted play from 1.30-4pm at the Barry Uniting Church, Heol y Llongau, Barry CF6 34AP (the waterfront).

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PUBLIC NOTICE LICENSING ACT 2003

To whom it may concern,

We, **The Old School Management Trustee Committee,** do hereby give notice that we have applied to The Licensing Authority (Vale of Glamorgan Council) for the grant of a premises licence at **1 South Road, Sully, CF64 5TG** known as **The Old School.**

The Application is for **The sale of alcohol on the premises between the hours of 12.00 and 23.00 each day.**

Any person(s) wishing to make representations to this application may do so in writing to the **Licensing Department, Vale of Glamorgan Council, Civic Offices, Holton Road, Barry, CF63 4RU, or by email to licensing@valeofglamorgan.gov.uk** not later than 28 days after the date of this notice (as below). Representation received after this date will not be considered.

A copy of the Application can be viewed at the Civic Offices during normal office hours.

It is an offence knowingly or recklessly to make false statements in connection with this application, the maximum fine on summary conviction being £5,000.

Signed: Richard Thomas

Date: 1 April 2019

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SMALL ADS BIG RESULTS!

Double delight for Holton Road as they win cup final!

ON a glorious Sunday afternoon at Jenner Park, Holton Road Seniors clinched the Division One double by beating a spirited Cadoxton Barry 3-2.

It was a tense affair, Holton gaining the honours with two goals from Danny Morgan and a strike from Shaun Jachontow.

Holton had chances to finish the game off a few times but thanks to an incredible performance from Cadoxton's keeper, the score was kept close.

Credit to Cadoxton as they kept fighting and always looked dangerous on the counter-attack.

Holton coach Jeff Howells said: "I can't emphasize how proud I am of my lads; winning the league in January unbeaten was a great achievement and now to secure the double is a fantastic feeling.

"I'd like to thank all the players for being a joy to coach and watch, also to Matty for the hard work he puts in, the committee for the unseen hard work they do for the club and especially to the youngsters who turned up on mass to support us, singing their hearts out for the whole game.

"It's back to business now as we've another big game to play in the SWFA Intermediate Cup semi-final at Bridgend Street Stadium against The Royal Oak FC from Cwmbach."

JH

Vets takes a step closer to league title

SWANSEA Vets welcomed a Barry 55s squad to sunny Llandarcy, for this Wales Veterans over-55s league encounter and a fine 3-0 win for the visitors moves them closer to title.

The home side started with high hopes of a result reversal from November (when Barry enjoyed a 4-1 win) and opted for an adventurous five across the middle in an effort to negate Barry's passing game.

The tactic failed however, as Swansea's Jones, Clarke and Harris failed to overcome Barry's Huish and Marshall in the engine room - and in doing so allowed space for full backs Hill and Staddon to play long, probing passes to Murray and Bobbett, who galloped gleefully into opposition territory.

On one such foray a corner resulted, delivered expertly by Dupuy and gratefully headed home by Murray from two inches!

Minutes later Bobbett latched onto Hill's through ball and thought he had doubled the advantage, only to be controversially ruled out by the official.

The visitors were not to be denied however, and another pass by Marshall allowed Murray to beat the offside trap and when the ball ran kindly after a clash with the advancing keeper, Murray was left with a simple tap-in to score his, and Barry's second.

At the other end, Barry's strong team ethic nullified Swansea's danger men, Davidson and Godwin, the latter dropping ever deeper to secure some service. Although most of Swansea's sojourns forward were dealt with comfortably by Blackie and Jones, keeper John Jones was called into spectacular action when tipping a Robinson header away.

On the half-hour, a Huish through ball dissected the Swans defence and Bobbett was only denied by the keeper who pushed the ball around the post.

Dupuy subsequently delivered another clinical corner which Jones volleyed home with aplomb, leaving defender Medwin in his wake.

Going into the interval the game was all but over.

Into the second half and Swansea were playing for pride, but it was Barry who controlled the tempo of the game and created the better chances.

Huish went close with a drive from outside the box and Murray, Bobbett and Welsh all had opportunities to increase the margin.

This result moves Barry a point behind leaders Llantrisant with a game in hand, which is, ironically, the team's next fixture - should be a humdinger!

AH

Rugby league charity publication is announced

TWO more venues have been confirmed for the launch weekend for the new WRL-approved charity magazine, which is being published to raise money for "The Danny Jones Defibrillator Fund" and "Scott's Angels".

The publication entitled "100 Months of Rugby League in Wales" will go to the clubs where the players who the causes were created for - Scott Bessant and Danny Jones - started out in rugby league.

On Saturday, May 4, it will be on sale at New Panteg RFC, the new home of Torfaen Tigers RLFC as they take on Swindon St George (kick-off 2.30pm) in their first home match of the new Southern Conference League season.

Then on Sunday , May 5, it will be on sale in the club shop at The MBI Shay Stadium before the Betfred Championship match between Halifax RLFC and Barrow Raiders (kick-off 3pm).

This is in addition to the official launch at the Welsh Charitables RFC dinner on Friday, 3May at the Mercure Holland House Hotel in Cardiff, as announced last week.

"Scott's Angels" was created to raise money for the family of former Torfaen Tigers rugby league player and coach Scott Bessant. In the early hours of August 13, 2017, Scott was found unconscious with multiple fractures to his skull, a fractured neck, broken ribs and a fractured pelvis.

No witnesses have come forward to any attack and the police have found nothing. Scott, a father of two, is alive but is in a vegetative state. His family and friends continue to fundraise to give him some quality of life.

"The Danny Jones Defibrillator Fund" raises money to purchase defibrillators for community rugby league clubs and junior teams across the country.

These defibrillators cost around £1,000 each and provide potentially life-saving treatment to anyone suffering a cardiac arrest. The charity is named after the Halifax-born Wales RL international who died on the field whilst playing for Keighley Cougars on May 3, 2015 after suffering a cardiac arrest that was caused by a previous undetected, hereditary, heart disease.

Supporters can pre-order the publication and request to pick up in either Cardiff, Torfaen or Halifax. If pre-ordered by Friday, April 13, their name or organisation will appear in the inside cover.

Please go to https://www.walesrugbyleague.co.uk/magazine for more details and to order.

IG

Tennis Club smashes the start of summer season

LAST weekend, Barry Community Tennis Club hosted local rivals Penarth Windsor Lawn Tennis Club at Romilly Park for the first fixture of summer 2019.

The under-12 girls' teams, playing in the South Wales Team Tennis League (Division 2) met on Saturday afternoon where, after a wet and blustery week, the biggest issue with the weather was the brightness of the sun!

Playing for Barry CTC were Grace Mickelsen (11, Barry Island Primary) and Poppy Williams (12, St Richard Gwyn).

The girls had to play a full singles match each, followed by a doubles, and the home team won all three matches, securing a solid start to the season.

Grace has a lot of tennis experience (her mum Penny is the head coach and founding member of Barry Community Tennis Club, and involves Grace in a lot of her work with Judy Murray's 'She Rallies' initiative to get more women and girls involved with tennis), whereas this was Poppy's first-ever experience of an external competition, and her first full matches with a yellow ball.

Poppy's mum Alison (a teacher at All Saints' Primary, and doubles partner to Grace's mum) commented: "Playing in the match has boosted Poppy's confidence both on and off the court. She started the match nervous and worried that she wasn't good enough but by the end of the doubles match she had a beaming smile on her face and didn't stop talking all the way home. The next day she wanted to go back to the Romilly Park courts and play more tennis!"

The club also has teams at under-8, under-9 and ladies', and their summer campaigns start in a few weeks. If you'd like to find out more about the club, check out their social media accounts or turn up at one of the sessions where a coach or existing member will be happy to chat about what the club has to offer.

PM

Andrew Brown is the latest Ath centurion

PROP Andrew Brown became the latest Bridgend Athletic player to reach the 100 senior Athletic appearances mark in the Second XV WRU Conference 30-0 victory over Rhiwbina second XV.

Andrew has made 66 first XV appearances and 34 second XV appearances; 80 per cent of Andrew's senior appearances were made between seasons 2003-2008.

He played throughout 2003-2004 for the second XV alongside current Athletic player/ team manager Liam Griffiths, before being part of the first XV that gained promotion from the old Division 2 West to Division 1 West of the Swalec Leagues.

During those seasons Andrew played with the likes of Simon Mustoe, Robert Coles, Stuart Morris, Gareth Bartlett, Carle Ellis, Lee Grabham, Ian Hemburrow, Tom Hearne, Griff Davies and still current first XV stalwarts Wayne Fooks and Jonathon Stoker.

Andrew, although semi-retired, has always been willing to assist the club with front row emergencies. This season he has played five second XV games in the WRU Conference and last season helped the first XV on four occasions in Division 1 West Central as well as the game at Rhiwbina.

He started with the Ath at under-14 age group level and played for the Boys Club of Wales under-16 team, before playing his youth team rugby with the Athletic and progressing to the senior sides.

In his prime Andrew was also asked to play a game for Llanelli against Llandovery in the Swalec Cup.

AB

YMCA Barry young gymnasts enjoy success

YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club recently enjoyed a successful Women's Artistic grades final.

In the recent south central Wales area grade championships, six gymnasts from YMCA Barry qualified for the Welsh finals. The top five qualify to represent south central Wales against the other areas.

In the grade 5 category, eight-year-old YMCA Barry gymnasts Lottie Cummins, Nia Beasley and Katie Wong made up the majority of the team. The girls competed excellently with some fantastic results.

Lottie Cummins claimed third on Vault, fifth on Beam and ninth overall. Nia Beasley received sixth on Vault, on Beam and on Floor, and ninth overall and Katie Wong came a respectable 13th overall.

The three girls and their team mates succeeded in winning the bronze team medal.

In the grade 4 competition, nine-year-olds Rosie Jo Bishop, Gracie Jones and Ruby Clark competed superbly for south central Wales. This was the first time Ruby Clark had represented and she competed with great maturity and a high level of skill. Rosie Jo Bishop earned second on Vault, fifth on Beam and a fantastic fourth overall.

Gracie Jones had an amazing competition with fourth on Bars, fifth on Range, became the Welsh Grade 4 Beam and Floor champion as well as claiming second overall. Rosie, Ruby and Gracie, alongside their team mates, won the Silver team medal.

In the regional grade 3 competition, due to the complexity of the grade, the gymnasts do not have to qualify for the Welsh finals. From YMCA Barry, Roxy Frost and Lacey Williams competed and passed their grade with flying colours. Lacey Williams also became the Welsh grade 3 Vault champion. Another fantastic weekend for YMCA Barry Gymnastics Club.

Congratulations to all the gymnasts who passed their grade and to the dedicated coaches for these successes. YMCA Barry Gymnastics caters for all levels of gymnastics from Gymbabies and Gymtots, gymnastics for boys and girls from beginners to international, most recently having two gymnasts – Josh Cook and Iwan Mepham – representing Wales at the 2018 Commonwealth Games.

Would your child want to try gymnastics? For more information call 01446 724000, email sophie@ymcabarry.org.uk or follow us on social media @ymcabarry.

SE

New ladies captain Jo drives in at Brynhill

THE sun shone for lady captain Jo Kirkpatrick's drive-in at Brynhill Golf Club on Tuesday, March 26.

Ladies then played a fun 10 hole stableford David & Goliath four ball, better ball (with a twist) competition.

Once all the ladies were back in the clubhouse, the lady captain thanked everyone for their support.

The lady captain supplied a cheese and biscuits light buffet which the ladies gladly tucked into.

Durin her speech, the lady captain said that this fun competition would become an annual event. She again thanked her vice-captain Lisa Taylor for her hard work.

The lady captain also took the opportunity to thank Jan Tattersall who had generously half-funded the works to the ladies 16th tee.

Presentations then followed, with Linda Hewlett winning the drive-in and Lisa Taylor winning the nearest the pin. The winners of the David & Goliath competition on count back with 22 points were Claire Herbert and Rita Cook who each received a trophy, plant and chocolates.

Past winners received cash prizes and they were: 'March Hares' played on March 5 – winner Andrea Page with 15 points; 'Daffodil Galore' played on March 19 – winner Linda Hewlett with 16 points.

OT

Left to right: Lady captain and winners Rita Cook and Claire Herbert and the lady vice captain.

Lady captain Jo Kirkpatrick taking her first drive.

Lucky 13 for Vale Karate!

AFTER another fantastic season, Barry Leisure Centre-based Vale Karate earned no fewer than 13 Champions of Champions trophies at the finale to the Welsh Karate League season, which took place in Merthyr on March 24.

Vale instructors and newly-married couple Leah and Luke Howard took three champion's trophies between them, with Luke taking the Mens Kumite award and Leah earning her customary Ladies Kata and Kumite double!

Following in their illustrious footsteps, at the other end of the spectrum, both under-8 Kata events went to Vale Karate, as Angel Manayanai took the Girls trophy, and Vale's WUKF European Champion Jakob Bartush taking not only the Boys Kata trophy, but also the under-8 champions trophy in the newly-established Jukuren event.

The Jukuren category, newly-established in the Welsh Karate League to give young children confidence of competing in front of an audience and testing their ability, with youngsters demonstrating their sparring techniques on a standing punchbag.

Vale also shone in this category as alongside Jakob in the under-8s there was also a one-two in the under-10 advanced category in Elle-Mai Lee and Lloyd Beer and a one-two-three in the under-12 advanced event with Gregory James, Emillie Thompson and Talia Efstathiou all proud winners of trophies!

Elle-Mai and Lloyd were also the top two in the under-10 Advanced Kata, though on that occasion Lloyd took first place with Elle-Mai in second. Lloyd and Elle-Mai returned to Barry with an impressive haul of silverware as, with Max Riddick they also went on to win the under-10 team Kumite trophies!

For the third season, Bradley James was champion in the under-14 Special & Para Kata event, ahead of team-mate Connor Ashill, while the under-16 Shotokan Kata was another Vale tussle, as Danica Apologista took first place just ahead of team-mate Chiara Baker.

The final Vale Karate Champion of Champions trophy went to Alysha Lee who was victorious in the under-16 Girls Kumite.

Vale were, for the seventh straight season, the top Welsh club, but lost the overall club award for the first time, with the huge All-Style Karate Alliance Association from the Midlands acclaimed champions.

The new season starts in earnest on April 14 in Merthyr; for more information visit karate-league.wales and valekarate.com.

Lloyd, Elle-Mai and Max win under-10 team event.

A Vale one-two-three of Emillie, Gregory and Talia.

Open days at Murch Bowling Club

MURCH Bowling Club players are looking forward to the start of their bowling season on April 13.

The club has open days on April 13 and 20 and prospective members are welcome to come along, and try their hand at bowling.

The open days start at 2pm; bowls will be provided, just wear flat soled shoes. The club is at the end of Sunnycroft Lane in Dinas Powys. It will also give visitors a chance to enjoy the excellent facilities in our club house.

For more information, contact any of the following:

Cynthia Russell (president) 02920 513619; Graham Russell (treasurer) 02920 513619; Eileen Carryer (secretary) 02920 515568; Maurice Warman (men's secretary) 02920 512575.

Got a sports story, match report or item of interest?
Then get in touch with us - email
sport@glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Sully Sports get ready for bowls open day

SULLY Sports Bowls Club men's section launches its 2019 season with an open day on Saturday, April 13, with a 2.30pm start at their clubhouse/green, South Road, Sully.

Don't worry if you are a novice, or have never bowled, free coaching is available to all newcomers.

The club practice, and hold team selection, on a Monday evening, and their main fixtures on Saturday afternoon are the Private Greens League, and the Carruthers Cup, with the Munro Cup fixtures played on Wednesday evenings.

Unfortunately, the ladies section has had to disband, due to insufficient numbers, but the club wishes every one of them well. The door is open to re-starting the ladies section if in the future there are enough ladies interested.

For more information contact Peter Holland (secretary) on 01446 622490 or Graham Brown on 01446 737274.

MS

Barrivale Bridge Club results

THE results for the Barrivale Bridge Club session on March 26 are as follows:

First, Reg Dyer and Ken Hannah, 63.10 per cent; second, Mick Green and Tim Barsby, 61.31 per cent; third, Denis Mottram and Jenny Vaughan, 60.12 per cent; the handicap winners were Hilary Laurence and Vivien Liles.

New members at the club are always welcome and a partner may be arranged, if required. If you would like to join us call any of the following numbers: 01446 418380, 01446 733425, 01446 735592 or call at the Pioneer Hall, Beryl Road, Barry at 7pm on Tuesday evening.

LH

'The Royal' is first Welsh golf club to receive conservation accolade

THE Royal Porthcawl has become the first golf club in Wales to obtain the GEO-Certification sustainability award after receiving valuable support from the Bridgend County Borough Council (BCBC) 'Dune 2 Dunes' project.

The 'Dunes 2 Dunes' project, funded by the Sustainable Management Scheme, which is supported by the Welsh Government Rural Development Programme and the European Union, is a collaboration of organisations, landowners, farmers and golf courses working together to sustainably manage the Bridgend county borough coastline.

The golf club has worked hard on the large-scale removal of degenerate gorse in order to reinstate open sandy areas and encourage coastal heather regeneration. Their mission has been a huge success and will lead to healthier coastal grasslands.

Staff at the golf club have also been proactive in creating and restoring habitats for Great Crested Newts – a European protected species – and have liaised with the Amphibian and Reptile Conservation Group in order to improve conditions of the existing ponds located on the course. Birds including linnets, kestrels and yellow hammers can also be found there.

Cllr Charles Smith, BCBC's cabinet member for education and regeneration, said: "Congratulations to Royal Porthcawl Golf Club on achieving this international certification which is the sign of a great golf environment. The club has a clear commitment to nature, sustainability, coastal grassland protection and habitat restoration."

The Welsh Government Rural Communities Rural Development Programme 2014-2020 is funded by the European Agricultural Fund for Rural Development (EAFRD) and the Welsh Government.

Summer comes for senior golfers

ST Mary's Golf Club's senior section's summer season kicked off with a field of 30 taking to the fairways for the first White Tee Medal competition of the year.

The sky was overcast at the outset but the promised rain held off through the morning. With limited run on the ball, however, scoring proved to be modest.

New member Alun Powell once again demonstrated his aptitude for stroke play competition by securing third place with a net score of 74.

At the head of the leaderboard, two players were tied on net 73 but after a back nine countback, the victory was awarded to octogenarian Bob Coombes, with former captain, Hugh Williams, placed second.

Regrettably, bad weather set in for the remainder of the week and the section's scheduled first inter-club friendly fixture of 2019 against Dinas Powys Golf Club was rained off.

NL

Old Hall Bridge Club results

THE results from Old Hall Bridge Club for April 3 were:

First, Liam Sheridan and John Beard; second, Cathie and James Mangles. Visitors are always welcome.

TP

For all the latest news from your area - glamorgan-gem.co.uk

Knap fishing competition donations help to pay for Barry man's funeral

OUR whole family would like to say a big thank you to everybody who attended the Martin Burke fishing competition at the Knap, Barry last week and to everybody who made donations towards the funeral costs.

The winner was Milo Bjegovic – well done!

It was a very enjoyable day and thanks also go to the people who were unable to attend, but still donated.

Thanks go to Robert Cole and his team at SWSA who, although they could not make the day, sponsored the event to ensure we had a safe and worry-free day and supplied score cards for all who competed.

David Llewellyn – thank you so much for everything you did behind the scenes, receiving donations from everyone, sorting out the raffle tickets and for your wise advice.

Further thanks to Holton Road and the other angling shops for their donations and help.

In total, from donations online, individuals and the competition, £2,000 was raised.

Robert and Jessica Wylie and Antony Burke.

Wales under-19s let down by handling against England

THE first quarter of this encounter between Wales under-19s and England under-19s saw both sides waste chances to get the scoreboard ticking over, until England were awarded a five-metre scrum on the 20 minute mark.

Scrum half Jonny Law found the whitewash, with the extra points added by full back Josh Hodge.

Wales had chances to score themselves but could only manage a penalty from outside half Josh Thomas before half-time. It was Wales that started the brighter in the second half, with prop Luke Yendle sneaking over for a try, the conversion added by Josh Thomas to give Wales a 10-7 lead.

That advantage was shortlived, though, with flanker Joe Howard sailing over from the restart, and Hodge again adding the conversion. The full back then added a penalty, before replacement Jack Clement crossed for England's third try; Hodge popped over the simple conversion.

No8 Morgan Strong hands off a defender - Photograph by James Kaye.

England then put the game out of reach of Wales, with Josh Hodge finishing off the best move of the match to score a fine try, he also added the extra points.

A late try for full back Harri Doel gave a little respectability to the final score, but Wales were guilty of making too many handling errors at crucial moments, and in the end England deserved the honours, on the day they were too clinical for a Wales side that fought to the final whistle.

Mike Sully

On and off the turf with Brian Lee

LLANCARFAN'S Isabel Williams and Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor both found themselves in the winners' enclosure at Ludlow on April 1.

Isabel rode her father Evan's *Burn Baby Byrne* to a one-and-a-half lengths win over *Mabela* in the Weatherbys TBA Mares' Handicap Hurdle and Jack, riding the seven-year-old *Hidden Charmer* in the Heath Farm Magnus Allcroft Memorial Open Hunter's Chase, won by three parts of a length from *Delegate*.

Hidden Charmer, a seven-year-old Irish bred bay gelding, is trained by former Welsh champion point-to-point rider Nick Williams at Ogmore-by-Sea. *Burn Baby Byrne* went off the 3-1 joint-favourite and *Hidden Charmer* was returned the 10-11 favourite.

Burn Baby Byrne was the second leg of a double for Evan Williams, who earlier had won the Templar Medical H4H Handicap Hurdle with *Court Royale* partnered by stable jockey Adam Wedge.

Six-year-old *Court Royale*, a 11-4 shot, won by one-and-a-half lengths from *SnapDragon*, ridden by champion jockey Richard Johnson.

DAVID'S LONG-PRICED WINNER

DAVID Prichard, 27 who hails from the Vale but who is now assistant trainer to Kayley Woolacott at South Molton in north Devon, was seen at his best at Taunton races on Thursday (April 4).

He landed the PontisPool Equine Sports Centre Maiden Hunters' Chase on Claire Hitch's 10-year-old *Im All Set* which beat the odds-on favourite Harriet Waight's *CoCo Live*, a winner of its last four races.

David, a three pound claiming jockey, got his mount home by half-a-length in an exciting finish and those who backed the horse were rewarded with odds of 16-1.

Claire Hitch trains at South Molton in north Devon which is near the Bratton Down Point-To-Point Racecourse.

Two other Welsh riders who had plenty to smile about at Taunton were Lorcan Williams and Alan Johns. Lorcan won on the legendary trainer Paul Nicholls' *Birds Of Prey* in the Muriel Bell Memorial Novices' Hurdle and Johns took the evening meeting Maiden Open National Hunt Flat Race on Tom Lacey's four-year-old *Capac*.

Bird Of Prey got home by a neck from *Barbados Blue,* ridden by another Welsh rider James Bowen, and *Capac* won by two-and-a-half lengths from *Bergamot*.

CHARLIE'S AINTREE SECOND

CHARLIE Price, a seven pound claiming jockey with Aberthin's Tim Vaughan, finished second on his *Point Of Principle***, a 25-1 outsider in the MerseyRail Handicap Hurdle at Aintree last Friday, April 5.**

Headed in the final furlong by the Irish-trained *Three Musketeers, Point-Of Principal* was beaten by one-and-three-quarter lengths but still earned his connections £15,900.

The winner, which was ridden by Jack Kennedy, received £42,202 for its efforts.

CONNOR'S SEDGEFIELD SUCCESS

THE Vale's Connor Brace just can't stop booting home winners.

Riding the top-weighted *Collodi*, which had finished runner-up in its previous three races, in the opening Alconex And Aqua Jet Annual Race Day Handicap Hurdle at Sedgefield last Friday, April 5 he got his 10-year-old mount home by three-and-a-half lengths from the lowly-weighted *First Of Never*.

Collodi,who is trained by Mr C Dore, went off the 2-1 favourite in a field of 10 runners.

FLINT STRIKES AGAIN

BRIDGEND trainer John Flint landed the M&M Green Haulage Handicap Chase at Ffos Las last Sunday with his 10-year-old course and distance winner *Lac Sacre***, which won by 12 lengths from the Evan Williams-trained** *Sutters Mill***.**

A 9-1 chance, *Lac Sacre* was ridden by Paddy Brennan.

Earlier in the day, Williams saw his *Flight To Milan* get beaten a head in an exciting finish by his fellow Vale trainer Tim Vaughan's *Chosen* in the Evans Race Handicap Chase.

Chosen, a 4-1 chance, was ridden by stable jockey Alan Johns.

Dai Rees's *Gone Platinum* under Lorcan Williams won the opening Llanelli Herald Handicap Hurdle coming home three-and-a-quarter lengths ahead of the Colin Tizzard-trained *Sizing At Midnight*.

Team effort leads Llantwit Major under-12s to victory

LLANTWIT Major RFC under-12s faced Penarth on Sunday for the second time this season.

The last game was in October when the game had to be stopped as Llantwit had conceded so many tries.

The team have had a turbulent season so far, having had no coach to lead them, but with the help from the under-10s coach, the manager and two of the dads, the team, led by captain Zak Grinter, went out determined to win. Working as a team and playing some beautiful passing rugby Llantwit saw themselves in the lead at half-time.

Everyone gave their all, determined not to let the win slip through their fingers as Penarth came back strongly in the second half. The Llantwit defence remained strong and the whole team dug deep to come away with a 31-26 win.

A fantastic morning of rugby. Well done all, you should be very proud of yourselves!

Team: Sean Edwards, Will Parfitt, Gethin Sykes, Jack Painter, Jack Dundas, Keiron Martin, Evan Sterckx, Jack Robson, Abbie Cutting, Ieuan Harrison, Tomos Parry, Zak Grinter, Reuben Hickman, Maison David, Dylan Marsh, Joseph Loveluck-Edwards, Harry Cook, Liam Lewis, Tom Price.

SH

Barry & District Mens Skittles League

DIVISION 1:

Geest 5, KP Rejects 0; Bunker Boys 271 (A Jeynes 29), 49ers 271 (R Bolt 33); British Rail 279 (B Smith 29), Blue Monkey 294 (C Holland 29); Sea View 352 (A Payne, A Elston 35), Billy Whizz 322 (C Alldred 34); Cannon Balls 304 (I Forsyth 30), Merrymen 289 (E Jones 32).

League table: 49ers 39, Geest 32, Bunker Boys 23, Blue Monkey 20, Merrymen 20, Posties 20, Sea View 19, British Rail 17, Willie Wombles 17, Billy Whizz 15, Cannon Balls 14, KP Rejects 14.

DIVISION 2:

BP Breakaways 257 (D E Coombes 29), H Bells 278 (B Howert 29); Mighty Dockers 258 (P Huggett 28), Exiles 264 (A Ladner 29); Ex-Servicemen 267 (A Kemp, D Kuhnell 27), Park Lads 271 (M Whyman Jnr, M Whyman Snr, D Summerell 27); Hairy Lemons 274 (J Birch 29), Tynny Lads 209 (S Germon 26); Colcot Boys 293 (B Sullivan 32), Cavaliers 289 (B Kilgour 30); Witchill Poachers 346 (R Ashby 35), Barry Park B 344 (P Gershenson 39).

League table: Park Lads 36, Cavaliers 28, H Bells 26, Hairy Lemons 24, Witchill Poachers 20, Barry Park B 20, Colcot Boys 18, Mighty Dockers 18, Exiles 17, Tynny Lads 17, BP Breakaways 14, Ex-Servicemen 14.

DIVISION 3:

Billy Bluebirds 282 (P Harris 26), Park Rangers 242 (T Power 31); Royalists 279 (C Iannucci, C Casado 29), Glenbrook Flyers 264 (D Everitt 30).

League table: Park Rangers 28, Billy Bluebirds 22, Castle Boys 20, Glenbrook Flyers 20, Royalists 19, Abercrete 18, Cocoa Nuts 18, Witchill Nomads 17, Alternatives 16, C.U.D. 10, Master Mariner 0.

View all results and league tables at barryleagues.co.uk.

JW

Vale of Glamorgan Bridge latest news

RESULTS for April 1 are as follows:

First, Stella Miller & David Barwood 62.05 per cent. Second, Tony Disley and Phil Felman 61.88 per cent. Third, equal Irene Thomas and Graham Jones and Linda Pinnock and Marjorie Morris with 57.71 per cent.

Results for April 8: First John Evans and Steve Burgoyne 67.21 per cent; second equal, Marjorie Morris and Linda Pinnock and Alan and Elaine Robins with 60.71 per cent.

LE

On and off the turf with Brian Lee

COWBRIDGE'S Byron Moorcroft won the open maiden race on Jason Warner's *Diplomatic* at Barbury Castle and at Andoversford, Matthew Barber was successful on Claire Jones's *Jungle Legend.*

JACK'S HEREFORD SUCCESS

Merthyr Mawr's Jack Tudor, age 16, won the Novice Riders' race at the North Ledbury Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases held at Hereford Racecourse last Sunday, April 7.

Riding 12-year-old *William Money*, owned and trained by David Brace OBE of the Dunraven Stud Farm, Pyle near Bridgend, *William Money* made nearly all the running to win easily by six lengths from *Cawdor House Bert* with the third horse *Bridge Of Spies* a further 30 lengths away.

Jack, whose father Jonathan Tudor was a notable amateur rider in his day, has now ridden four winners between-the-flags and a further three winners under Rules.

Another Welsh rider to boot home a winner was Carmarthen's Ben Jones, 19, who, riding *Princely Player,* drew away from the odds-on favourite *Undisputed,* partnered by Alex Edwards, at the penultimate fence to win by four lengths, clocking six minutes and 29 seconds, which was three seconds faster than *William Money* had taken to win the previous race.

Princely Player is trained by Karen Hobbs, who arrived at the racecourse just in time to declare her horse as its horsebox had broken down on the way.

National champion point-to-point rider Alex Edwards, aged 28, who rode 42 winners last season, brought this season's total number of wins to 22 when winning the Timico Mixed Open Race on the Philip Rowley-trained *Now Ben,* who won by six lengths from *Green Winter*. *Now Ben,* an 11-year-old chestnut gelding by *Benefical*, is owned by Mr WR Milner.

Ynysbwl's Bradley Gibbs' mount *Don Bersy* made most of the early running but eventually finished fourth of the six starters.

Pembrokeshire's Robert Luke was delighted with his five-year-old bay mare *Spark To A Flame*, who was making her racecourse debut and who came home a distance ahead of *Black Aphrodisiac* in the Jockey Club Open Maiden Race For Mares and Fillies.

Spark To A Flame was ridden by Zac Baker, age 24, who is based at Nigel Twiston-Davies' yard.

Bryan Carver from Cork, took the Five,Six And Seven-Year-Old Open Maiden Race on *Salven* who, always in a handy position, won by five lengths from the Tredegar Farmers-qualified *Samdibien*.

Carver also won the second division of the Four, Five And Six-Year-Olds Point-To-Point Flat Race on the four-year-old filly *You Too Bonny Lass* and Jack Tudor rode the runner-up *Sing The Anthem*, trained by his father and owned by The Anthem Partnership.

The First Division had went to the five-year-old bay gelding *Durouyn* partnered by Zac Baker who had earlier won on *Spark To A Flame.*

POINT-TO-POINT

The Llangeinor & Pentyrch Hunt Point-To-Point Steeplechases take place at the Dunraven Stud, Pyle near Bridgend, on Saturday and an exciting afternoon's racing can be expected.

Dunraven Stud owner David Brace OBE said last weekend that all going well he could run his multiple chase and point-to-point winner *William Money.*

There will be pony racing before the first point-to-point race takes place at 2pm.

Hole in one for new captain

MARCH saw golfers back in action Brynhill Golf Club,where the first competition of the new season is the Barry and District Cup, a four week eclectic event where the best score on each hole, over the four rounds, is totalled.

After week three, David Cunningham and new member Paul Thomas hold a commanding three-shot lead over Peters and Doyle with three pairs one shot further behind.

Sunday also saw new club captain Jaimie Griffiths score an hole in one on the par three 16th. **AS**

Centurions get ready for new season

SULLY Centurions Cricket Club begin the countdown to the new season with a pre-season friendly against neighbours Barry Wanderers, at the Wanderers' ground at Hayes Point.

The game is on Sunday, April 14, 2pm start. All players are reminded to let skipper Rhett Jones know their availability.

Mick Fisher

The Vale of Glamorgan Football League round-up

HOLTON Road lifted the Supporters Cup to complete the Division One League and Cup double.

They now look ahead to the SWFA Intermediate Cup semi-final as they chase a treble. Holton Road saw off Cadoxton Barry 3-2 on a glorious day at Jenner Park, Cadoxton Barry made Holton Road work for it with a great effort but the champions' class came through.

In the Premier Division, AFC Rhoose look odds-on to get the second place spot, they saw off Sully Sports 5-2 to go one point ahead of Cowbridge Town in third but with two games in hand.

Cowbridge moved third with an impressive 2-0 win away over Island Marine while Penarth Town remain fifth, but warmed up for the Barry Cup final in a few weeks, with a 7-2 thumping of bottom side St Athan.

In Division One, Cadoxton Imps all but secured promotion with an impressive 3-0 victory over Cardiff Airport.

The result sees Imps three points ahead of Tynewydd with both sides having one game remaining, however Imps have much superior goal difference. Tynny would have to hope Imps lose heavily in their final game and they win in double figures for any chance.

In Division Two, the title race is blown wide open. It's a three way race as St Athan B ended Barry Vikings seven game unbeaten run with a 2-0 victory.

Leaders AFC Rhoose B were held 2-2 by Barry Athletic B, so now Rhoose sit three points ahead of both Vikings and St Athan but Vikings do have a game in hand.

Penarth Town B gained pay back for a midweek defeat to Cadoxton Athletic in some style, as they thrashed them 8-1.

Finally, Vale Madrid saw off Island Marine B 2-0 to bounce back from cup final disappointment and closed the gap at the bottom on Marine B to two points.

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17 17 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 4Motion 5dr, VW warranty March 2020, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 11k, blue **£23495**

12 12 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Black Edition Quattro 3dr, Bose, 19"alloys, grey, half-leather **£10995**

13 63 AUDI A5 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line Coupe Automatic, sat nav, 19"alloys, heated seats, blue, full leather **£12495**

16 16 AUDI A7 3.0 TDI Quattro 272 Black Edition 5dr S-Tronic Automatic, BOSE sound system, sat nav, 21"alloys, grey, full leather **£26795**

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17 66 AUDI Q3 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 5dr, Audi warranty March 2020, sat nav, aprk system plus, 22k, grey, half-leather **£19995**

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17 66 AUDI Q5 2.0 TDI 190 Quattro S-Line Plus 5dr S-Tronic, Audi warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, 20"alloys, 28k, white, full leather **£25995**

16 16 AUDI Q5 2.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 5dr, 19"alloys, xenons, 16k, black, full leather **£22495**

16 16 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 5dr Tiptronic Automatic (7-Seater), 20"alloys, sat nav, white, half-leather **£37995**

15 65 AUDI Q7 3.0 TDI Quattro S-Line 5dr Tiptronic Automatic (7-Seater), BOSE, 21"alloys, sat nav, white, half-leather **£35995**

15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 3dr S-Tronic, sat nav, pdc, Bluetooth, heated seats, red, full leather **£19495**

15 15 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro Convertible Automatic, sat nav, comfort pack, heated seats, blue, full leather **£19495**

16 66 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, heated seats, full leather, 11k, black, half-leather **£23495**

17 17 AUDI S3 2.0 TFSI Quattro 5dr, Audi warranty March 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 9k, black, full leather **£25495**

17 17 AUDI S4 3.0 TFSI Quattro 4dr Tiptronic Automatic, Audi warranty March 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, white, full red leather **£31995**

12 12 AUDI TT 2.0 TDI Black Edition Quattro 3dr, Bose, 19"alloys, grey, half-leather **£10995**

17 67 BMW 330 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, cruise, 17k, silver, full leather **£22495**

16 66 BMW 335 D XDrive M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty Dec 2019, M sport + pack, LED headlights, sat nav, 19"alloys, 20k, grey, full leather **£22995**

17 17 BMW 420 I XDrive Sport Gran Coupe 5dr Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2020, sat nav, 25k, grey, full leather **£20495**

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16 16 BMW X1 2.0 DXDrive M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty June 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 24k, met white **£18995**

16 66 BMW X1 XDrive D M Sport 5dr, BMW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 18"alloys, 21k, blue **£19995**

16 66 FORD KUGA 2.0 TDCI Titanium 5dr 4x4, Ford warranty Dec 2019, appearance pack, 19"alloys, blue, half-leather **£13495**

14 14 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI SE Premium 5dr Automatic 4WD, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 36k, black, full leather **£15495**

16 16 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI BlueDrive Premium SE 5dr Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty July 2021, sat nav, pan roof, heated seats, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 20k, silver with full leather **£20995**

16 66 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRDI BlueDrive Wiggins Edition 5dr 4WD Automatic (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Dec 2021, pan roof, sat nav, 23k, white, full leather **£22995**

17 17 HYUNDAI SANTA FE 2.2 CRD BlueDrive Premium 5dr 4WD (7-Seater), Hyundai warranty Feb 2022, sat nav, reverse camera, 15k, choice, full leather **£19995**

16 16 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRDI Premium SE 5dr 4WD Automatic, Hyundai warranty May 2021, sat nav, pan roof, 16k, black **£18995**

16 66 HYUNDAI TUCSON 2.0 CRD Premium 4WD 5dr Automatic, Hyundai warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, 18k, grey, full leather **£18795**

16 66 INFINITI QX30 2.2 D Premium Tech 5dr DCT Automatic, Infiniti warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, 21k, grey, full leather **£18995**

17 17 JAGUAR F-PACE 2.0 D Prestige 5dr Automatic AWD, Jaguar warranty April 2020, sat nav, 24k, blue, full leather **£27995**

15 65 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, 25k, white, full leather **£17495**

16 65 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.0 MultiJet Limited 5dr 4WD, sat nav, cruise, 22k, black, full leather **£15995**

16 16 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet II Night Eagle 5dr Automatic AWD, sat nav, cruise, 24k, grey, full leather **£18495**

17 67 JEEP CHEROKEE 2.2 MultiJet 200 Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, Jeep warranty Oct 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 12k, black, full leather **£22495**

14 64 JEEP GRAND CHEROKEE 3.0 CRD Limited 5dr 4WD Automatic, reverse camera, dab, grey, full leather **£17995**

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16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T GDI GT-Line AWD 5dr, Kia warranty Aug 2023, sat nav, 19"alloys, full leather, 20k, white **£16495**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 1.6 T-GDI GT-Line 5dr Automatic AWD, Kia warranty Sept 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 24k, black, full leather **18495**

16 16 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI KX-4 AWD 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, reverse camera, 23k, choice, full leather **£18495**

17 17 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRD GT-Line 5dr 4WD, sat nav, 19" alloys, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, choice with full leather **£16995**

16 66 KIA SPORTAGE 2.0 CRDI First Edition 5dr AWD Automatic, Kia warranty Oct 2023, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 24k, white, full leather **£20995**

15 65 LAND ROVER RANGEROVER EVOQUE 2.0 TD4 HSE Dynamic 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 20"alloys, 20k, red, full leather **£25495**

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16 16 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER SPORT 3.0 SD V6 HSE 5dr 4x4, sat nav, 21"alloys, cruise, grey **£42995**

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13 63 MINI COUNTRYMAN 1.6 Cooper D All4 5dr, Privacy glass, Bluetooth, aux, usb, 30k, silver **£9495**

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15 65 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 John Cooper Works ALL4 3dr (218bhp), chilli + tlc pack, 39k, red, full leather **£13995**

16 16 NISSAN QASHQAI 1.6 DCI N-Connecta 5dr 4WD, Nissan warranty April 2019, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 16k, black **£13995**

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16 66 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, heated seats, 17k, choice **£21995**

17 17 VW GOLF 2.0 TSI R 4Motion 5dr, VW warranty March 2020, sat nav, heated seats, cruise, 11k, blue **£23495**

16 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech Match Edition 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, sat nav, pan roof, 19"alloys, 15k, grey, full leather **£17495**

15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech Match Edition 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, 18"alloys, cruise, blue **£13995**

15 65 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech R-Line 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, sat nav, cruise, 31k, white, full leather **£16995**

16 16 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech Edition 4Motion 5dr, pan roof, sat nav, cruise, 25k, blue **£14995**

16 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI Bluemotion Tech R-Line 4Motion 5dr DSG Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, 20"alloys, heated seats, white **£23995**

17 66 VW TIGUAN 2.0 TDI BMT 150 4Motion SE Nav 5dr DSG Automatic, VW warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, 16k, white **£21995**

16 66 VW TOUAREG 3.0 TDI V6 BluemotionTech 262 R-Line 5dr Automatic 4WD, VW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, pan roof, 18k, white, full leather **£25495**

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12 62 BMW 118 D Exclusive Edition 2dr Coupe, Bluetooth, USB, 59k, grey, full leather **£8495**

16 16 BMW 118 2.0 D M Sport 5dr, sat nav, cruise, privacy glass, 27k, white **£13995**

15 64 BMW M135i 3.0 M Sports 5dr automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, 34k, orange, full oyster leather **£16995**

16 16 BMW 218 ISE 2dr Convertible, BMW warranty Sept 2019, sat nav, Bluetooth, dab, pdc, 17k, red **£13995**

12 62 BMW 318 DSE 4dr, 18"alloys, heated seats, dab, black, full leather **£8995**

12 62 BMW 318 D M Sport 4dr, cruise, privacy glass, white, full leather **£10495**

15 65 BMW 320 D BluePerformance Plus 4dr Automatic, sat nav, sport seats, black, full leather **£13995**

16 66 BMW 320 D M Sport GT 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, pro sat nav, heated seats, cruise, silver, full leather **£15495**

16 66 BMW 420 D M Sport Gran Coupe 5dr, BMW warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, heated seats, choice, full leather **£19495**

16 66 BMW 430 D M Sport Gran Coupe Automatic, BMW warranty Sept 2019, pro sat nav, reverse camera, 19"alloys, black, full leather **£19795**

16 16 BMW 430 D M Sport 2dr Automatic, M sport + pack, body kit, sat nav, reverse camera, individual san marino blue, full leather **£25995**

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15 65 BMW 520 DM Sport 4dr Automatic, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather **£13995**

18 18 BMW 520 I M Sport 4dr Automatic, BMW warranty July 2021, sat nav, xenons, cruise, 15k, white, full leather **£26495**

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17 66 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost 140 ST-Line 3dr, Ford warranty Feb 2020, sat nav, cruise, 11k, choice **£9495**

18 67 FORD FIESTA 1.0 EcoBoost ST-Line 3dr (New Model), Ford warranty February 2021, sat nav, 17"Alloys, Bluetooth, 9k, black **£11795**

16 65 FORD FIESTA 1.6 EcoBoost ST-3 3dr (180bhp), sat nav, heated seats, xenons, 14k, white, half-leather **£11795**

16 66 FORD FIESTA 1.5 TDCI Titanium 5dr, cruise, Bluetooth, dab, aux, usb, 20k **£8795**

16 65 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Zetec S 5dr, sat nav, Bluetooth, aux, usb, blue **£9995**

16 66 FORD FOCUS 1.5 TDCI Titanium X Estate, Ford warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 17"alloys, 29k, black, half-leather **£12495**

14 64 FORD FOCUS 2.0 ST-3 5dr, heated seats, dab, 32k, white, full leather **£12995**

16 65 FORD GRAND C-MAX 2.0 TDCI Titanium X Navigation 5dr (7-Seater), pan roof, sat nav, reverse camera, 6k, blue **£15495**

16 66 FORD KUGA 1.5 T EcoBoost ST-Line 5dr, Ford warranty Jan 2020, sat nav, cruise, Bluetooth, 23k, white, half-leather **£16495**

15 15 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Econetic Titanium 5dr, sat nav, cruise, dab, aux, black **£8295**

16 16 FORD MONDEO 2.0 TDCI Zetec Estate Automatic, sat nav, cruise, grey **£11495**

17 17 HONDA CIVIC 1.5 VTEC Sport 5dr (180bhp), Honda warranty April 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, privacy glass, 23k, blue **£14995**

16 16 HYUNDAI i30 1.6 CRD SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty March 2021, air-con, cruise, Bluetooth, red **£8795**

15 65 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive SE Nav 5dr, Hyundai warranty until Jan 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, 27k, choice **£12995**

18 68 HYUNDAI TUCSON 1.7 CRDI BlueDrive Go SE 5dr, Hyundai warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 3k, white **£19295**

16 66 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D (180) R-Sport 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty Nov 2019, sat nav, 18"alloys, heated seats, choice, full leather **£18295**

17 17 JAGUAR XF 2.0 D 180 Portfolio 4dr Automatic, Jaguar warranty March 2020, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, white, full leather **£20495**

16 66 KIA OPTIMA 1.7 CRDI 2 4dr, Kia warranty Oct 2023, sat nav, reverse camera, 10k, silver **£12495**

17 66 KIA PICANTO 1.25 Sport 5dr, Kia warranty Feb 2024, sat nav, reverse camera, 8k, black, half-leather **£8995**

15 65 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 2 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Dec 2022, pan roof, cruise, 11k, choice, half-leather **£12795**

17 67 KIA SPORTAGE 1.7 CRDI 3 ISG 5dr, Kia warranty Sept 2024, pan roof, sat nav, 19"alloys, reverse camera, 19k, blue, full leather **£17995**

15 65 LAND ROVER RANGE ROVER EVOQUE 2.0 ED4 SE 5dr, contrast roof, privacy glass, white, full leather **£20995**

17 17 MAZDA CX-5 2.2 D Sport Nav 5dr, Mazda warranty April 2020, sat nav, BOSE, cruise, 21k, grey, full leather **£17995**

15 65 MERCEDES A180 1.5 CDI Sport 5dr Automatic, sat nav, Bluetooth, cruise, 35k, silver **£13795**

16 16 MERCEDES A200 2.2 D Sport Executive 5dr, sat nav, blue, full leather **£13795**

18 67 MERCEDES C300H AMG Line Hybrid 4dr Automatic, Mercedes warranty Feb 2021, sat nav, reverse camera, silver, 6k, full leather **£24995**

16 16 MERCEDES C350 E Sport Premium Plus Estate Automatic, sat nav, reverse camera, heated seats, grey, full leather **£21995**

16 66 MERCEDES CLA200 D AMFG Line Coupe Automatic, Mercedes warranty Dec 2019, sat nav, cruise, 30k, white, half-leather **£19995**

14 64 MINI PACEMAN 1.6 D COOPER Coupe, chilli + tlc pack, 17"black alloys, 30k, white **£9495**

16 16 NISSAN JUKE 1.5 DCI Acenta Premium 5dr, sat nav, reverse camera, 25k, white **£9995**

15 15 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr, pan roof, cruise, privacy glass, grey **£11995**

17 67 NISSAN X-TRAIL 1.6 DCI Acenta 5dr Xtronic Automaic (7-Seater), Nissan warranty Oct 2020, pan roof, cruise, 9k, blue **£16995**

16 16 PEUGEOT 308 1.6 BlueHDI 120 Active 5dr, sat nav, cruise, pdc, 19k, black **£8995**

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE Energy Expression + 5dr, Renault warranty Nov 2021, Bluetooth, cruise, 6k, black **£10295**

18 68 RENAULT CAPTUR 0.9 TCE 90 Iconic 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2022, sat nav, Bluetooth, 5k, red **£12495**

17 67 RENAULT CAPTUR 1.5 DCI Dynaique 90 S Nav 5dr, Renault warranty Oct 2021, sat nav, cruise, pdc, Bluetooth, 10k, grey **£11995**

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Golfing Farmers enjoy the sand, the sea, and golf in the Gower

Winning golfers Mike King, Martin David, sponsors representative Tosh Taylor, captain Clive Thomas and John Brazier.

PENNARD Golf course, situated eight miles west of Swansea with spectacular views over Three Cliffs and Oxwich bays on the Gower Peninsula proved a welcoming venue for 36 members and guests at the last monthly meeting of the Glamorgan Farmers' Golf Society.

With 18 holes over classically undulating and tumbling links land, full of hillocks and hollows and 200 feet above sea level, it is not surprising the club boasts of being known as 'The Links in the Sky.'

The fine sunny weather certainly helped members to enjoy the special occasion.

Finishing ahead of the field at the close after accumulating 32 Stableford points to win the Walker Cup and one of the many prizes supplied by sponsors JCP Solicitors of Cowbridge was Martin David, whose love of links courses is well documented.

Runner up with 31 points was Mike King, followed by Gareth Perkins on 30 points.

Chris Watson, who finished in fourth place with 29 points also collected the Picketston Poultry sponsored prize when correctly guessing 41 balls would remain out on the course, which also raised £100 for the Velindre fundraising.

Cowbridge resident Jon Brazier took the honours in the section for visitors when returning 31 points just ahead of the sponsor's representative, Rory Hutchins, also with 31 points but an inferior back nine.

Nearest the pin on the Watts & Morgan sponsored par-3 holes were Dan Jarvis, Neil McLean, Jamie Gibson, Godfrey Lewis and Gareth Perkins and Rob Price returned home with the Llanerch Vineyard and Restaurant sponsored prize by hitting the longest drive down the nominated hole.

The society's next meeting is on Thursday, April 25 at Bargoed Golf Club and will be sponsored by Messrs Kelly, Harris and Conlon of the NFU.

Trevor Wooding

SOCIETY members were saddened to learn of the passing following illness of one of their most popular members, Trevor Wooding.

Trevor was a long-standing member who served as treasurer of the Society from 1991 to 1996 and was elected captain for 2007. He often featured in these articles due to his ability to finish ahead of the majority of those competing in the monthly competitions.

He also enjoyed travelling to golf courses throughout Wales with his regular golfing compatriots and is someone who will be sorely missed by many.

TMcC

Three representatives within the squad who all play for Cowbridge Town AFC (from left to right) are: Will Johnson (Ysgol Iolo Morganwg), Peter Coe (Y Bont Faen) and Harvey Rees (Pendoylan

Footballers are the national champions!

MANY congratulations to the Cardiff & Vale County Schools under-11s football squad who became the national champions when they won the finals day on March 31 in Cardiff.

After qualifying from the group stages, CVSFA played a very strong Wrexham team in the semi-finals and following a win against them progressed to beat a resilient Flintshire PSFA team in the final.

It was a great opportunity for players to test their skills against players from different areas of the country.

The Cardiff & Vale Schools team have won the Tom Yeoman trophy just three times in the last 30 years so it was a huge achievement for this squad of players and coaching team to have won, capping off an excellent and enjoyable season: Well Done to them all – enjoy your success!

Many thanks to the Welsh Schools FA for organising a memorable finals day for all the competing County teams.

WEJ

Cowbridge Darts League round-up

ON Tuesday, April 2 we saw the return of league action.

With the Highwayman not playing a league match, the Edmondes B extended their lead at the top of the table by defeating the Edmondes A 7-2.

The Farmers Arms beat the One Town Hall Square 7-2. This win was enabled by some excellent darts from Rob Jones (Farmers Arms) winning a leg in 12 darts and Nigel Thomas (Farmers Arms) winning a leg in 11 darts; this included a two-dart 100 out.

The Victoria Inn defeated the Hairy Farmers 6-3. Contributing to this win was Iain Jones (Victoria Inn) winning a leg in 10 darts and Amanda Edwards (Victoria Inn) winning a leg with a two-dart 93 out.

In the other league match the Edmondes C won 5-4 against Llanharry. In the other scheduled game the Highwayman Inn were unable to field a team and so the Red Lion won 9-0 by default.

Present league standings, after 17 weeks, are: Edmondes B (119 points), Highwayman Inn (105), Edmondes A (79), Llanharry (76), Farmers Arms (73), Victoria Inn (68), Hairy Farmers (64), One Town Hall Square (51), Edmondes C (46) and Red Lion Inn (21).

Next week, Tuesday April 23, the Highwayman Inn hosts the Edmondes B, the Red Lion Inn hosts the Farmers Arms, the One Town Hall Square hosts the Victoria Inn, the Edmondes A hosts Llanharry and the Hairy Farmers hosts the Edmondes C. The action will start at 8.15pm and spectators are welcome.

For further information e-mail Paul at cowbridgedarts@gmail.com, up-to-date information can be found on the website: www.darts.apsn.co.uk.

PJT

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Rampant Llantwit Major RFC put on a show at the Recreation Ground

LLANTWIT Major RFC were in fine form as they crossed for 10 tries in beating Llandaff last weekend 62-14.

With the rugby club hosting their first community fun day, the festivities continued onto the pitch with a marvellous display of rugby from both sides.

Llandaff, even though suffering a heavy defeat, were no pushovers and the home side had to work hard to break them down but once they did the tries soon flowed.

The game kicked off in splendid spring sunshine but with a swirling strong breeze cooling any thoughts of summer.

Llantwit playing towards the School End in the first half didn't have it all their own way and there was still no score after the first quarter, such was the determination of both sides to gain the upper hand.

Arguably it was Llandaff who just edged the early exchanges and were keen to spread the ball wide as often as they could, and with a live-wire scrum half, were asking questions of the home side.

Gradually Llantwit began to wear their opponents down with their set play and the first try came from a big scrum deep inside the Llandaff half.

The ball was whisked out by the half backs to centre Joel Thomas who made a strong run into the line defence but crucially gave a great offload from the floor back to outside half Howley who spun the ball wide to the three-quarters who made good use of the space to put wing Evan Holloway over in the corner.

The next try quickly followed with a good team effort in patience as 13 phases of close control pick and go movement was used before captain Geraint David forced himself over the whitewash.

Llandaff were soon back in the game as they were rewarded for a period of dominating possession with a fine try and with the conversion were edging back into the game at 12-7.

Llantwit though, after some stern talking from the old heads in the huddle, soon settled back into their game plan of working through patterns of play before spreading the ball and stretched their lead with two well-taken tries by Holloway and full back Josh Austin before the break.

The half-time score stood at 24-7 with the bonus point already in hand.

The second half saw Llandaff throwing everything at the home side in an attempt to get back into the game but once the line defence had soaked up the pressure, Llantwit again began to dominate and the gaps soon started to appear infield.

The breakthrough again came from a dominant scrum which allowed number eight Rob Carter and scrum half Ryan Evans to combine to annex the move wide. Outside half Howley and full-back Austin then combined well on a loop to put Howley away, and just as his eyes lit up at the whitewash he was downed by a last-ditch tackle, his offload allowing supporting wing Steff Godwin to dive over.

Godwin soon adding another after some lovely handling by forwards and backs gave Gary Watts some room outside to tie in the defence and flick a lovely pass out of the tackle to Godwin, who glided over.

Llantwit were now rampant in their strength of play and replacement flanker Dan Farrell was in a hurry to get on the scoresheet, taking the ball from a lineout maul to rampage over in emphatic style for a great try, leaving three defenders in his wake.

Hooker Huw Williams crossed soon after, but Llandaff were not to be denied another score.

It was back to the Llantonians to end the display with some fine running rugby, Jack Austin looping around the covering defence before replacement three-quarter Rhys Dixon, who had been a real livewire since his entrance, capped off a great day for the Llantonians.

Man of the match was wing Steff Godwin who took his tries well but was also aggressive in defence and support. Further mention goes to scrum half Ryan Evans who controlled the pack well and linked well throughout, and to the two youth players, outside half Liam Padmore and prop Dominic Henson, who came on in the last quarter for their senior debuts and put in solid displays.

Llantwit now have a fortnight off until their last game of the season, which will be away at Tonyrefail, a much sterner test expected to end the season in the foothills of the Rhondda Valley who have an impressive record on their home turf.

The club would like to thank everyone who turned out for the community fun day which was a great success and will continue for the first and last home games next season.

AH

Bowls club to hold open day

COWBRIDGE Bowling Club, which is situated behind the Leisure Centre, will be holding an open day on Sunday, April 14, between 11am-4pm.

It will be a free introduction to lawn bowls. All you need to bring is a pair of flat shoes and we will provide the rest.

At Cowbridge we play on an all-weather outdoor green from April through to September. The club competes in various league and cup matches and together with social bowling and internal competitions provides a full programme throughout the season.

We are a mixed friendly club so why not come along for this free taster session – you will be made very welcome.

If you require further information please contact Gerry on 01446 775616.

GEL

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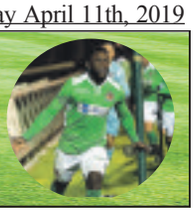

Cowbridge RFC grab valuable bonus point win in the race for promotion

LAST Saturday, Cowbridge travelled to Rhondda Fach to take on Tylorstown in a return fixture, with Tylorstown narrowly losing the week before by just two points. They had good reason to be confident.

Before the match there was a minute's silent in memory of Don Jones who played for Tylorstown in the 1960s.

The game started with a kick that went deep into the Cowbridge 22 where the the ball was not secured, but from the resulting scrum, Cowbridge managed to get the ball away and relieve the pressure.

It took a great tackle by centre Sam Stephens to bring down their No 13 in what looked to be a promising Tylorstown attack. Just minutes later, Cowbridge worked the ball to the left, with full back Huw Lougher in the line. His pass to wing Rhydian Williams took Rhydian outside of the opposing winger, but his kick went too deep.

A minute or two later, a great burst up the middle by centre Sam Stephens was taken on by captain Ross Gibbon, but the final pass to prop Dai Popham in support wasn't held.

Just past the midpoint, another Tylorstown attack was this time brought to a stop by a last-ditch tackle by No. 8 James Bennett.

This resulted in their inside centre needing prolonged treatment, but it also resulted in second row Sam Richards leaving the field with a knee injury and Richards was replaced by James Holder.

With play in the Cowbridge 22 and from a scrum, Tylorstown edged forward, their scrum half picked up and dabbed it down for a try converted by their No 13. There followed more driving play, taken on initially by Hywel Williams at scrum half and then hooker Craig Boxall, before the ball was moved to the left and outside half Tom James' lovely pass went to James Bennett in the line and he put away Rhydian to go outside his opposing wing and then cut back inside to touch down under the post for a try that wing Adam Dix converted to even the scores.

Moments later, Dix was involved in a good run up the right wing taken on by centre Ash Thomas which took play into the Tylorstown 25. James Bennett took a quick penalty, moved it onto Boxall but he wasn't quite able to ground the ball.

That resulted in a scrum, but in stopping that play, Tylorstown's flanker had hit out and received a yellow card for his troubles.

Minutes later, an excellent line out take by Gibbon resulted in a drive to the line, the ball was slipped to Boxall to crash over for a terrific try. Dix produced an excellent conversion from wide out.

With minutes to go to half-time, a deep kick from Lougher from full back was run back by the Tylorstown No 14, but a heavy tackle by flanker Tom Evans dislodged the ball from his hands and Bennett, who moments earlier had been on the floor with an injury, picked up and ran in to score on the left hand side of the field. Again, another excellent conversion from Dix brought the half to an end, the score 7-21.

Early into the second half, drives by Gibbon and then Dan Holder and Sam Stephens resulted in Hywel moving play to the left where a mis-match saw brother Rhydian skip past Tylorstown's prop and go over in the left hand corner. Dix's conversion went just wide.

Minutes later, more driving play down the blindside wing was taken on by Dan Holder and then by Tom Evans, who had white line fever. He was stopped just three metres out.

Another break by Hywel this time went to James Holder but he couldn't quite hold onto the ball as the line beckoned. A break in play saw Dai Popham coming to the touchline after an all-action 50 minutes and George Thomas, his replacement, raced on. Tom Evans was replaced by Reuben Tucker, back from injury, and Sam Stephens by Ryan Hall.

Tylorstown were next on the scoreboard when, from a scrum in Cowbridge's 22, the ball was picked up but seemed to have been knocked on by their substitute in the back row before he scrambled over in the corner for a converted try to bring the score to 14-26.

From the kick-off, Tylorstown dropped the ball and Tucker picked up and drove for the line. There was an infringement by Tylorstown and a quick tap penalty was taken by James Holder and he crashed over for his first try of the afternoon, which went unconverted.

Wing Will Williams came on for the last 18 minutes with the lively Adam Dix making way.

Just to show that he was back in prime form after his injury, Tucker went on a 15-metre charge.

There then came a scrum and another charge by Ryan Hall nearly got him over the line, but, from the resulting scrum, Tucker picked up at the back, moved infield and passed behind himself into the hands of Ryan Hall, who crashed through under the posts for a try that Hywel converted to make the score 14-38.

Tylorstown had the last word, as a penalty was taken forward by their captain and second row, and despite an excellent tackle by Boxall, the referee awarded the try from which there was also a conversion, bringing a final score of 21-38 and the all-important bonus point win.

This was a terrific performance by the team – Tylorstown proved very tough opposition over both matches. The bonus point was absolutely crucial in the race for the top two spots in the league.

All of the players were superb, but perhaps special mention should made of Hywel Williams, who made any number of breaks and Reuben Tucker returning from what was a very nasty injury.

Tom James at outside half again showed his versatility, his distribution and all round eye for a gap, and kept Cowbridge on the front foot for most, if not all, of the game.

This week, Cowbridge travel away to Pentyrch in what is another must-win fixture in order to keep the pressure on at the top of the table.

There was terrific support again up in Tylorstown, in a very picturesque setting with the Llanwonno Summit across the valley making a spectacular backdrop.

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